

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
DECEMBER 8, 2015  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor: Calvin Balch

City Councilmembers: Kelly Laws  
David Johnson  
Joe B Lyman  
Robert Ogle  
Taylor Harrison

City Administrator: Jeremy Redd

Finance Director: Kim Palmer

City Engineer: Terry Ekker

Community Development Director: Bret Hosler

Recreation Director: David Palmer

Police Chief: Jason Torgerson

Fire Chief: Corey Spillman

Community Members: Terri Laws, Roma Young, Koleman Spillman, KD Perkins, Ruth Johnson, Kendall Laws, Emily Laws, Logan Shumway, Scoot Flannery

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Kelly Laws.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the November 24, 2015 meeting with the following addition to Item B. “Councilmember Lyman complimented the Blanding Area Travel Council for their marketing efforts.” Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Ogle**  
**Councilmember Laws**  
**Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Those Abstaining**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**3. OPEN FORUM**

A. Mayor Balch expressed appreciation and presented a plaque to Councilmember Kelly Laws for his several years of service on the City Council. Councilmember Laws has served on the Council since 1998.

Councilmember Laws shared the following remarks;

*“Over the years I have been asked why you would be on the City council, are you glutton for punishment. What is your agenda? The City ought to be providing this or that for the citizens, why aren’t they? It shouldn’t matter who you are or what your genealogy is, but it does. Why does the City do all of their business behind closed doors?”*

*Some of these thoughts were somewhat the same as mine 18 years ago. My reasons to be on council, my agenda, and my ideology of government has not changed over the years. I am going to take a few minutes and sum up my reasons for the stand I have taken on issues through my years of service.*

*1973 when I became draft age and eligible for the military service, the Vietnam War was winding down. The draft was no longer being used. After registering with the Selective Services of our Country for the draft I received notice that my status was 1H. Meaning I was on hold. I was contemplating joining the Marines. My mother’s wishes overrode my desire, I didn’t join. A lifelong regret.*

*As I aged I realized that there were other ways to serve my community. This is one of the reasons I chose to run for City council and the main reason I stayed for so long. In no way am I suggesting that City Council is compared to military service but it was a way to serve the City, County, State and Country that I love.*

*Yes I did have an agenda, and I have ruthlessly pursued it from day one until now. I had three things on my agenda.*

- 1. Everyone will be treated equal. Religion, genealogy, race, wealth or community stature would not make a difference on how a citizen or an employee would be treated.*
- 2. All issues no matter how uncomfortable would be discussed and debated in the open for all to hear.*
- 3. Staff would not run the government.*

*I am going too briefly comment on what I feel has been accomplished.*

- 1. I am confident that the concept and rules have changed, I have been very strict on the fact that whatever the decision is going to be, we will treat all the same. Whether we send a weed notice or refuse to sale water outside the City annexation area. We will be consistent and we have.*
- 2. Way too often I have been the devil's advocate to insure that all sides of an issue have been discussed, sometimes to the point of causing feelings around the community. The one thing that happens when you have a very in depth and sometimes heated discussion is that often a better idea is born. No matter how good ones plan or idea is, when it is picked at and kicked around, and all 5 members of council get involved, a better plan emerges. Plus the public can know that it was not one person's idea and the decision was not made behind closed doors.*
- 3. When I came on council, staff was running the City and council was allowing them to. This wrong. Yes staff is involved every day and are professionals, but they are not elected to run the city, council members are. Council should make the decisions and policy for staff to follow. We only have to look to our Federal Fathers and see what happens when departments, agencies and their staff is allowed to run unchecked. The city has come a long way in this area, but if councilmen over his assigned area isn't involved, then staff has to move on without them. So this becomes a councilman's decision to let staff make up his mind for him or in other words "the tail wags the dog."*

*The role of government in my book is defined as this. It is not government's role to provide economic development, it is not governments' role to provide jobs, or recreation, or a certain level of profit for a business or education, or support our son or daughters' school activity, or health care or etc. It is the role and responsibility of government to provide a safe and healthy nest for any and all of the mentioned to have a place to be born and to grow, if an individual or group has the desire to make it happen. That is the difference between socialism and capitalism. Socialism brings on taxes to the point of despair and depression and causes the loss of motivation. Capitalism allows the willing to prosper and create opportunities for growth and development.*

*To create this nest there are some very key responsibilities of the government.*

- 1. Safety. A good strong police force set on the no tolerance of drugs, gangs, alcohol abuse policy, and to create an environment free of violence and consists of law and order.*
- 2. A good fire department.*
- 3. Enough water to avoid restrictions and allow room for growth.*
- 4. A good sewer system.*
- 5. Electricity and Gas.*
- 6. Streets and sidewalks.*

*With these necessities provided then the city can look toward other needs. It isn't the government's role to provide the fluff in life. If government can provide the fluff then we are taxing too much. At this point it should then cut taxes so the individual can afford their own choice of fluff.*

*Over the years I have served with two mayors on of them twice. 20 different councilmen and 1 councilwoman. Most took their election and responsibilities seriously.*

*The one thing that has been instrumental in the successful of Blanding government is acceptance. There has been some very heated debates with split voting, but when the dust settled and the smoke cleared, there were no hard feelings that carried over to other issues. All accepted and respected the outcome and moved on.*

*I thank the staff and employees of the City for their dedication to help make Blanding the safe and friendly community it is. For their commitment to work in all conditions to make life comfortable for us all.*

*I thank the citizens of Blanding for their years of support.*

*I thank you to the many volunteers that contribute so much with so little pay or acknowledgement.*

*I have worked with two city managers that have and do go far and beyond in their service to our community. Regardless of the fallout from the actions of the elected officials they have proven to be great men with great commitment and moral character. Thank you.*

*And I thank you Mayor and Council as well as the many councilmen and councilwomen and mayors before you for their contribution in shaping Blanding into a great community to live, raise a family and grow old in.*

*May God bless the future of this great community.*

*Thank You.”*

At the conclusion of Councilmember Laws remarks, Mayor Balch presents Councilmember David Johnson with a plaque of appreciation for his years of service on the Council. Councilmember Johnson has served on the Council since 1998. Councilmember Johnson expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve his community and work with the different Councilmembers over the past six years.

B. Terri Laws expressed her enjoyment in attending City Council with her husband, Councilmember Laws. She has learned to appreciate the hard work done by City staff. She feels his role on the City Council has influenced the direction their boys have taken in their careers.

## **5. REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

### ***A. Mr. Ekker presented the November 2015 Gas and Water Report.***

Mr. Ekker reported that natural gas usage was up from 2014 and one new residential service was added. There have been eleven new half-inch services added so far in 2015.

Mr. Ekker then shared the results from the natural gas audit that was completed in July. He shared that any noncompliance findings have since been resolved. He then told Council that these findings help to improve the safety of the service in the community.

### ***B. Police Chief Torgerson presented the November 2015 Police Report.***

Chief Torgerson reported the statistics from the month of November. There was a total of 67 calls handled by the department during November. This is down from 2014, when there were 81. However arrests and offenses were up from this same period last year.

### ***D. Fire Chief Spillman presented the November 2015 Fire Report.***

Chief Spillman reported that November had been slow for fires and training. The department had responded to two landing zones and two property clean ups. There was also a response to Natural Bridges for an acid spill. Joe asked for property cleanup, who foots the cost. Chief Spillman that those types of activities are used for training purposes and there is no charge.

### ***E. David Palmer presented the November 2015 Recreation Report.***

Mr. Palmer reported that there have been very little change in the number of participants in girls and boys basketball. A tri-fold pamphlet advertises the many opportunities available at the Wellness Center. It also

includes membership information and pricing. Residents will receive the pamphlet with their utility bills in January.

Councilmember Ogle questioned Mr. Palmer about the personal trainers available at the Wellness Center. Mr. Palmer replied that there are currently two personal trainers available, ready to help those needing suggestions on how to improve their workout or those who have questions regarding the available equipment. The personal trainers are helping individuals reach their goals. Mayor Balch asked if there was a set schedule of when the trainers were available and is there information regarding how to contact them available. Mr. Redd responded that individuals will be able to get the contact information for the personal trainers from the website or by calling the Wellness Center.

Mr. Palmer then stated that a calendar of activities and class schedules will be available on the website. The calendar has the capability to be updated frequently with the latest changes and additions.

Councilmember Lyman asked about the process for checking memberships was being handled. He stated he has never been asked to show his membership when entering the facility and now wondered how many others are coming in and using the facility free of charge. This has been a concern expressed by other community members to him also. Councilmember Harrison responded that the facility is operated much like other gyms of this type. He also commented that someone will always be trying to sneak in without paying. Mr. Palmer shared that software to better track memberships has been researched but the question is will the increase in revenue outweigh the cost of the software.

6. **AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. 2016 City Council Meeting and Holiday Schedule – Kim Palmer***

Ms. Palmer presented the 2016 City Council agenda and holiday schedule for Council approval.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to approve 2016 City Council Meeting and Holiday Schedule. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***B. Vehicle Allowance Policy – Taylor Harrison***

Councilmember Harrison reminded Council that the policy has been discussed at two prior meetings. He continued that he is supportive of the policy and the changes that have been made, per Council's request.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to approve the Blanding City Vehicle Allowance Policy. Councilmember Lyman seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Councilmember Ogle asked for clarification on who the policy would apply to. Councilmember Harrison responded that the policy applies to the City Manager only at this time.

***D. Approve Job Description – Recreation Director – Jeremy Redd***

Mayor Balch asked Council for advice and consent on the job description for the Recreation Director. Advice and Consent was given.

**7. Public Hearings**

The public hearing has been scheduled for the proposed annexation at 300 W 800 S, the proposed major subdivision on 300 W 1300 S and the proposed increase in compensation for elected City officials.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to enter a public hearing for an annexation, a major subdivision and the increase in compensation for public officers. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

There were no public comments.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to leave the public hearing and return to regular session. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

8. ***Ordinance 2015-3 – Providing for the Compensation of Elected Officers of Blanding***  
**Councilmember Laws moved to approve *Ordinance 2015-3 – Providing for the Compensation of Elected Officers of Blanding*. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Harrison**



**Those voting NAY**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

9. **INFORMATION**

***A. Councilmember Oath of Office – January 4<sup>th</sup> at noon – City Office***

Mr. Redd stated that the new Councilmembers will be sworn into office on Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup>.  
He invited all to attend.

Councilmember Lyman expressed his appreciation for the opportunity he has had to serve with  
Councilmembers Laws and Johnson.

9. **OPEN FORUM**

A. There were no comments from the public

10. **Councilmember Johnson moved to adjourn. Councilmember Laws seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
OCTOBER 27, 2015  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:	Calvin Balch
City Councilmembers:	Taylor Harrison
	David Johnson
	Kelly Laws
	Joe Lyman
	Robert Ogle
City Manager:	Jeremy Redd
Finance Director:	Kim Palmer
City Engineer:	Terry Ekker
Community Development Director:	Bret Hosler
City Police:	Jared Hillhouse

Community Members: Terri Laws, Kendall Laws, Roma Young, Alan Pincock, Jessica Pincock, Heather Raisor, Scoot Flannery, Logan Shumway, Kyle Hosler, Trina Hosler.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Kim Palmer.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the October 13, 2015 meeting. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**

Alan Pincock asked if it would be possible to bring in an additional garbage bin to the Transfer Station. This would allow more garbage to be taken at the station each day.

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Mr. Ekker presented the Project Status Report***

**SCADA and metering for the 12" Mountain Line Replacement Project**

Mr. Ekker shared that the Dry Wash project is complete and the SCADA project can move forward.

**Backup Power at the Water Treatment Plant**

Mr. Ekker reported that engineers are reviewing plans and specification then they will be sent to USDA for approval. ICPE has submitted a proposal to help develop the bid sheets for the project.

**Blanding Power Distribution Project**

Mr. Ekker reported that the plans and specifications for the project are currently being developed, with the support of a consultant.

**East Side Trunk Line Project**

Mr. Ekker told Council that the project is currently in the acquisition phase.

**2015 Streets Project**

Mr. Ekker asked Scoot Flannery from Jones & Demille Engineering to report on the status of the streets project. Mr. Flannery reported that some curbs were poured and completed last weekend. He also stated that asphalt for 500 south will be laid Thursday and Friday. Mr. Flannery also told Council there were unforeseen problems with the utilities that run under some of the streets. He shared that 300 north and 200 north have had more issues than any of the other streets currently being worked on. He anticipated 200 north being completed next week.

5. **AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. Stormwater Participation Program - Kelly Laws***

Councilmember Laws reminded Council of the prior discussion regarding stormwater issues that are affecting some City residents. He has a stormwater participation program he recommends the Council pass. This may help get some of these problem areas repaired. Councilmember Lyman stated that the stormwater problem seen today has been developing over the past 20 years. The bulk of that problem has been created by the City. He suggested that in the proposed stormwater program it clearly states that the City will never initiate the agreement, but rather it be initiated by the resident. If a resident approaches the City with a stormwater problem, then the participation program should be shared with

them. It was then stated that most of the time the solution will be a large project that a resident could not afford to share the cost.

Councilmember Laws stated that the intent of the stormwater rate increase is to generate funding for needed projects. The current rate of \$1.00 will never generate enough to complete one of these larger projects. Councilmember Lyman responded that an increase will have a huge impact on local businesses. He would like to see different solutions explored before a rate increase is approved. One solution he suggested was developing underground retention ponds in a few locations that could capture and hold the water. The water could then be used to irrigate in these locations. He used the example of capturing the water near the football field and then pumping it onto the fields there. Councilmember Laws reminded everyone that by law stormwater can not be held in a pond. Councilmember Harrison commented that a resident can store up to 600 gallons of stormwater at their home without a permit or special permission from the State.

Mr. Ekker commented that he would recommend the proposed agreement be between the City and the resident. City crews or licensed contractors will be completing any work done on the stormwater system.

After further discussion it was suggested the agreement come back at the next meeting, with the recommended changes in wording. The rate change will also be included on the agenda. Councilmember Harrison asked that rate comparisons from other communities be included for review.

***B. Proposed Transfer Station Changes - Kim Palmer***

Ms. Palmer told Council that the City has supplemented the Transfer Station in the amount of \$16,930.40 over the past year. The majority of the expenses are from the transporting of materials to the County landfill. She recommended the rate be increased to \$10 for City residents and \$20 for out of City residents. Councilmember Lyman voiced his concerns in doubling the rate for County residents. This would bring the rates in line with what the County landfill and other local communities are charging. Rate changes would become effective beginning November 1, 2015.

**Councilmember Laws moved to approve the rate increases at the City Transfer Station.**

**Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***C. Approve 2014 - 2015 Fiscal Year Audit / Financial Statements - Kim Palmer/Jeremy Redd***

Ms. Palmer reported that City assets exceeded City liabilities by \$44,658,170 at the close of FY2015. Total debt decreased by \$569,100. She also stated that three water bonds will be paid off during FY2016. Although they are not large amounts, they will come off the books. During FY2015 The City received \$469,235 in State, Federal and local grants. The enterprise funds net cash showed an increase from FY2014. There were no non-compliance findings identified in the audit.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the FY2015 Audited Financial Statements. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***D. Wellness Center Free Use - Tree For All - Christmas Fair - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd asked for approval for free use of the Wellness Center for the Christmas Fair that is scheduled to be held on December 4th & 5th.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to approve the Christmas Fair using the the Wellness Center at no cost. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Laws**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***E. Tunnel Inspection Report - Terry Ekker***

Mr. Ekker reported that the City completed the annual tunnel inspection. There were no blockages or backups. Videographers were along who will develop a video that will be available for viewing by anyone interested in the tunnel. It is anticipated the video will be available on the City website.

***F. Requested 300 W Annexation Update - Bret Hosler***

Mr. Hosler reported on the annexation taking place on 300 west in the area of 800 south. Two property owners in the area were interested in annexing while the rest were not. He asked for direction on annexing the Lewis Black properties. Council advised Mr. Hosler to continue the process by proceeding to the staff and planning commission reviews.

***G. Census Count of Out-of-City Blanding Residents - Bret Hosler***

Mr. Hosler shared the census count for residents living just outside city limits. The count was last completed in 1999. Since that time there has been an increase of 77 households. There are currently 1215 residences in City limits and 306 outside City limits. The entire population of City residents and those just out City limits is approximately 4500. This information is useful for new businesses that are considering locating in the area, and also for the City to plan for and fund municipal services.

6. **INFORMATION**

None

7. **OPEN FORUM**

None

8. **Councilmember Harrison moved to enter an executive session. Councilmember Lyman seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting entered an executive session at 8:35 p.m.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to leave the executive session. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote.**

**Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council left the executive session and returned to open session at 9:08 p.m.

**Councilmember Ogle moved to adjourn. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote.**

**Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
OCTOBER 13, 2015  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:	Calvin Balch
City Councilmembers:	Taylor Harrison
	David Johnson
	Kelly Laws
	Joe Lyman
	Robert Ogle
City Manager:	Jeremy Redd
Finance Director:	Kim Palmer
City Engineer:	Terry Ekker
Community Development Director:	Bret Hosler
City Police Chief:	Lloyd Watkins

Community Members: Terri Laws, Dan Raisor, Heather Raisor, Kay Jones, Jared Hillhouse, Kendall Laws, Pam Hosler, Kyle Hosler and Trina Hosler

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Jeremy Redd.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Ogle moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the September 22, 2015 meeting with changes to Item A, third paragraph, second sentence to read, "There is a lot of growth". Councilmember Lyman seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**



3. **OPEN FORUM**

Heather Raisor spoke to Council regarding the Tree For All event. The Edge of the Seaters (EOTS) has elected to not sponsor the Tree For All event this year. As a result Mr. and Mrs. Raisor have volunteered to organize the event. She asked the Council for their support. She continued to share that in previous years the funds raised were used to provide equipment and supplies for EOTS. This year, the funds would be donated to the community foodbank instead. Mr. Redd told Council that the City has donated \$400 for the Santa's Workshop activity at the event, and also donates the free use of the Wellness Center. Council encouraged Mrs. Raisor to move forward with the event.

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Mr. Ekker presented the September 2015 Natural Gas and Water Report***

Mr. Ekker Reported natural gas usage was down during the month of September, compared to last year. Two new services were installed.

Mr. Ekker reported that the water year ended at the end of September, with 101% in precipitation. The Mayor asked why the report showed a negative amount for the 4th Reservoir. Mr. Ekker responded that it was a calculation error on the report that he did not catch before the packet was complete.

He also reported that the yearly dam inspections were complete. The final inspection has been done on Dry Wash reservoir. The yearly tunnel inspection will be completed on Wednesday.

***B. Police Chief Lloyd Watkins presented the September 2015 Police Report***

Chief Watkins reported that calls were down during the month of September due to several time intensive calls. The department participated in a mock disaster that took place at the high school. Students were able to view the response of officers, EMT's and firefighters during the activity. He felt the drill benefited all involved, including the students.

***C. Craig Stanley presented the September 2015 Fire Report***

Mr. Stanley shared more information about the mock disaster. He said following the activity an assembly was held where the events of the mock disaster were discussed. He felt the entire activity had an impact on the students.

He also shared that firefighters attended the first regional fire school in Moab over the weekend. It was successful with 100 participants from all over the state.

***D. Jeremy Redd presented the September 2015 Recreation Report***

Mr. Redd reported that football is finishing up and girls basketball will be starting soon. Annual memberships are down slightly from last year, and he and David Palmer have been working on marketing options to expose more people to the services offered at the facility. He has met with the college to discuss what can be done to smooth the relationship between the college students and other users at the facility.

5. **AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. Bid Award - Wellness Center Snow Guard Project - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd discussed the snow guard system that will be installed on the north roof of the Wellness Center. The system will keep the snow from coming off in large sheets. Councilmember Ogle asked if the design was one of the three recommended by the architect. Mr. Redd responded, yes the snow guard is part of the full design to reinforce the pergola. The Engineer has also reviewed the building design to ensure the roof will hold the weight of the snow staying on there for a longer period of time. Two bids for the installation of the guards have been received. Both bidders were going to use the same company for materials and supplies, and both contractors provided references. Councilmember Ogle asked how soon the project will be completed. Mr. Redd responded that the snow guards must be installed by the end of November.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to accept the bid from Contract West Roofing Inc. for the installation of snow guards on the Wellness Center. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***B. Planning Commission Update - Joe Lyman***

Councilmember Lyman stated that Kathy Hurst was unable to attend. He reported that the commission is finalizing the work on the annexation plan. It has taken a lot of time because the current plan is outdated. The current plan was developed in 1991.

***C. Proposed Transfer Station Changes - Kim Palmer***

Ms. Palmer reminded Council of the previous discussion regarding the financial status of the transfer

station. Tipping fees collected do not cover the cost of operating the facility so the City supplements the costs. She recommended an increase in the fees charged at the facility. She told Council that the amounts currently collected are not even in line with what the County dump is charging for the same items. As an example the City is charging \$6.00 for a standard sized pickup, while the County is charging \$10.00. The proposed rate increase will bring charges more inline with what the County is charging. Council requested that information regarding the amount the City is subsidizing be brought back and discussed.

#### ***D. Stormwater Participation Program - Kelly Laws***

Councilmember Laws shared he has been approached by two individuals interested in the City participating with them in resolving stormwater issues on their property. He is proposing a stormwater participation program be developed to assist residents is repairing some of the issues they have as a result of stormwater. The program would be similar to the City's sidewalk participation program. Councilmember Laws then stated that as one location is repaired it can move the problem to the next property owner if it is not done correctly and with planning. He stated that he is going to recommend an increase in the stormwater rate to be used for projects and grant match. Currently the \$1 rate does not generate enough funding to do even a small project. He will be recommending the rate be increased to \$4. The increase will provide enough funding over a shorter period of time to complete or repair stormwater issues.

Councilmember Harrison asked what the cost to repair the stormwater problems on 300 west might be. Mr. Ekker responded it could be between \$100,000 and \$150,000. There are smaller projects that could be completed, but they are not on the City's master plan.

Councilmember Lyman expressed his concern that the City is asking residents to repair problems that the City created. He asked if it was possible to pull funds from the general fund, such as the streets account to help resolve the issue.

Councilmember Laws responded that those dollars have to be used for transportation. It can't be used for stormwater, even though the problems are created by the streets. Councilmember Lyman then stated that there is capital project funds that could be used for this. Mr. Redd responded that there is a possibility that all the suggestions by Councilmembers will be used in resolving stormwater issues. Councilmember Lyman asked for the capital projects list to be included in the next council packet.

***E. Culinary Water Sales - Kim Palmer***

Ms. Palmer told Council that the current rate of \$4 per thousand gallons has been the rate for water sales

at the shop since at least 1996. She feels there is a need to increase rates. It was asked who was using the tap at the shop for water. She responded that mostly it was individuals and businesses from outside the community, and they are purchasing less than a thousand gallons at a time. The biggest issue

is the availability of City employees to fill those tanks, since there is not someone at the shop during the

day. Water can currently be purchased at 7:00 am and 3:00 pm. Councilmember Laws stated that his understanding was that the cost of culinary water to these individuals was supposed to be 200% of residential cost. He also suggested that when contractors need water they pull it from a hydrant or one

of the reservoirs. There is no need for them to have treated water. Council asked Ms. Palmer to come back with a proposal on a rate increase.

***F. 2016 County Budget Request - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd shared the proposed 2016 budget request to the County. The list includes items that are requested on a yearly basis. The cost of dumping materials from the demolition of the home owned by the City on 200 south is also being requested. The cost for the demolition has been quoted at approximately \$30,000, and much of that cost will be dumping fees. There is also a request for the county

surveyor to help with mapping some street corridors. The Mayor asked for and received advice and consent to approve the County 2016 budget request.

**6. INFORMATION**

Mayor Balch shared that February will mark the City's 100 years of incorporation. He asked the Council to think of ideas to celebrate the anniversary. The City was incorporated in February 1916.

Mr. Ekker shared information about a large truck that will be coming through Blanding in the next few weeks. It will be the state record for oversized loads. To get this large truck through the City there may be the need to remove power poles and lines temporarily.

**7. OPEN FORUM**

Kyle Hosler commented about the stormwater drainage problem on the property he owns on 300 west. Along with the stormwater concern he feels there is a liability issue there for the City. The ditch is very deep in that area, and could be a hazard to young children. Children can not resist water. He also stated he is willing to provide labor to fix the problem. Pam Hosler asked how capital projects are prioritized. She proposed that safety issues should be used to prioritize projects.

8. **Councilmember Harrison moved to enter an executive session. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council entered an executive session at 8:43 p.m.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to leave the executive session. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote.**

**Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council left the executive session at 9:25 p.m.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch**

**repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote.**

**Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
SEPTEMBER 22, 2015  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:	Calvin Balch
City Councilmembers:	Taylor Harrison
	David Johnson
	Joe Lyman
	Robert Ogle
City Manager:	Jeremy Redd
Finance Director:	Kim Palmer
City Engineer:	Terry Ekker
Community Development Director:	Bret Hosler
City Police Chief:	Lloyd Watkins

Absent: Councilmember Kelly Laws

Community Members: Roma Young, Jared Hillhouse.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Taylor Harrison.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the September 8, 2015 meeting, with a correction to item 4-E to read, "... fall semester so memberships have not been added". Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Those Abstaining**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**

No Comments

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Mr. Ekker presented the Project Status Report***

**SCADA and metering for the 12" Mountain Line Replacement Project**

Mr. Ekker reported that as the Dry Wash project is starting to wrap up, the SCADA and metering project can now move forward. The contractor on the mountain line has been back to complete some of the needed corrections. Councilmember Lyman asked if the line was off grade and if so how will they fix it. Mr. Ekker responded that they are working to repair those areas using air-vacs.

**Backup Power at the Water Treatment Plant**

Mr. Ekker told Council that based on comments received from the USDA changes are being made to the plans and specifications. The backup power will run both the treatment plant and the culinary booster station. A security gate will also be installed.

**Blanding Power Distribution Project**

Project has been postponed. This project will move forward as soon as the streets project is completed.

**East Side Trunk Line Project**

Mr. Ekker told Council that the right-of-way acquisition is continuing. Mr. Redd shared that the community surveys will be showing up in mailboxes of residents in the next few weeks.

**2015 Streets Project**

Mr. Ekker reported that utility work has begun on several portions of the project. It is anticipated that more street work will begin next week if all goes well.

**Emery Telcom Fiber and Cable Project**

Mr. Ekker shared that crews are still working on violations that exist between the telecommunication lines and the high voltage power lines. Mr. Redd commented that he will be meeting with Emery Telecom's general manager sometime this week to discuss the project. They will also be discussing cost sharing for the violations that need correction.

***B. Ms. Palmer presented the Financial Status Report***

Ms. Palmer shared that the City is in good shape and all accounts are within budget. She stated that the Wellness Center has spent a little more on utilities and equipment repairs over the past two



months, but anticipates those numbers dropping now that the pool has closed. The total expenses are down from last year. Councilmember Lyman requested that the report include the prior years numbers for comparison.

Ms. Palmer responded that those figures can be added and then asked if there were any other changes the Council would like to see on the report. There were none at this time.

5. **AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. ULCT Conference Review - Robert Ogle***

Councilmember Ogle reported on his attendance at the Utah League of Cities and Towns conference. He felt he had received a lot of good thoughts and information from the week. One particular breakout session was a discussion on the “value of water”. He stated that water is a statewide concern. Many of the suggestions and ideas presented were already being implemented in Blanding. To conclude his comments he quoted a presenter at the conference, by stating, “remember it’s not who is right, but what is right.”

Mr. Redd shared that many of the breakout sessions were discussions on the upcoming state legislative session. He shared that he had attended a presentation by the police chief from Bountiful, who discussed how Cities can keep their love and respect for police officers and how officers can return love and respect to residents. He then stated that it is important for the City to stay involved in the league and represent the needs of rural communities.

Mr. Hosler stated that the Utah Economy has been a lot better during the past few years than the nation.

There is a lot growth occurring along the Wasatch Front with more predicted over the next several years.

This growth will have an impact on even the smaller communities.

***B. Resolution 9-22-2015-1 Requesting the Reauthorization of the Blanding Justice Court - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that the Justice Court has to be recertified every four years. He mentioned a letter from Kendall Laws certifying that the Court is complying with all applicable state law and recommended that the City request another four year authorization.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to approve Resolution 9-22-2015-1 Requesting the Reauthorization of the Blanding Justice Court. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Harrison**

Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle

Those voting NAY

NONE

Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.

6. **INFORMATION**

Mr. Redd reported that the City-wide cleanup day held on Saturday went well. The landfill received 17 dump truck loads that were picked up by the National Guard. It amounted to a total of 51,000 lbs removed. 11 residential loads were also taken to the landfill. The cost to the City will be \$1,100. There were a few items not picked up on Saturday that City crews returned and picked up on Monday and Tuesday. Councilmember Ogle stated he had witnessed the efforts of the National Guard in gathering the trash and items left on the curb by residents. The Council praised the efforts of the Guard and a letter of gratitude will be mailed.

7. **OPEN FORUM**

None

8. **Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

Those voting AYE

Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Lyman

Those voting NAY

NONE

Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2015  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

City Councilmembers:

Calvin Balch  
David Johnson  
Kelly Laws  
Joe Lyman  
Robert Ogle  
Jeremy Redd  
Kim Palmer  
Terry Ekker  
Lloyd Watkins  
Craig Stanley  
Bret Hosler

City Manager:

Financial Director:

City Engineer:

Chief of Police:

Fire Chief:

Community Development Director:

Absent: Councilmember Taylor Harrison

Community Members: Ruth Johnson, Kendall Laws, Jared Hillhouse

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Robert Ogle.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Ogle moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the August 25, 2015 meeting. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Those abstaining**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**

None

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Terry Ekker presented the August 2015 Gas Report***

Mr. Ekker reported there were no new gas services installed during the month of August.

***B. Terry Ekker presented the August 2015 Water Report***

Mr. Ekker reported the current water year ends at the end of September. The amount of precipitation for the year should be close to normal due to the rainstorms we received. Well C has been pumped to ensure the new flow meter is functioning correctly. Councilmember Laws noted that in August more water came off the mountain than was used.

***C. Chief Lloyd Watkins presented the August 2015 Police Report***

Chief Watkins asked for feedback from Council on the report format he used for the packet this month. Councilmember Ogle responded that the report is sufficient. Chief Watkins stated that he will upload the entire report to the website for those that are interested in reviewing it.

***D. Craig Stanley presented the August 2015 Fire Report***

Mr. Stanley reported that August had been a slow month for callouts and for training.

***E. Jeremy Redd presented the August 2015 Recreation Report***

Mr. Redd reported that soccer had wrapped up and flag football had begun. Tackle football will begin on Wednesday evening. The number of annuals are down from last year, but college has just returned for fall semester so those memberships have not been added. Ms. Palmer then stated that the revenue from the college memberships has just been billed and is not showing on this report. That revenue is \$11,000.

5. **AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. Wellness Center Design Update - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd reported that he has heard from the engineer regarding the pergola at the Wellness Center and the pergola is not designed to hold any snow weight. It will need to be redesigned and constructed. This will not be possible before winter, so the engineer is suggesting some temporary repairs to ensure it will be safe until it can be reconstructed next Spring. To ensure the safety of the entry, temporary pole supports will be installed to help hold the weight, heat tape will be installed to encourage the snow to come off and not build up into ice. Ice guards will also be installed along the roof to keep snow and ice from falling in large pieces. Councilmember Ogle asked who was the engineer designing the project and repair. Mr. Redd responded that Matocha Associates located in Monticello.

***B. Joint Use of Property Agreement Discussion - SJ School District - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that the current joint use agreement with San Juan School District had expired about a year and a half ago. He has been working with school officials to get a new one in place and signed. Most of the agreement is tied to the shared use of the ball fields, which the school uses for their baseball and softball teams, and the City uses for adult softball and football. The school has been working to upgrade and repair their fields to ensure the agreement can be reached. He also pointed out that because the Wellness Center is a fee based center the school is not allowed to use it as part of the agreement. It's use will be on a case by case basis. Mr. Redd stated the proposed agreement is for 3 years. Scheduling for procedures will occur through the City Recreation Director for City facilities and through the San Juan High School Athletic Director for school facilities. Mayor Balch asked who would ensure fields were safe and ready for play. Mr. Redd responded that the two entities have agreed to work together to ensure facilities are safe for participants. Council gave advice and consent for Mayor Balch to sign the agreement.

***C. Orangeville Update - Bret Hosler***

Mr. Hosler reported that the piece of farm equipment found on City property has been delivered to Orangeville, where it was manufactured. He showed a picture of the final placement in the Orangeville Cemetery. They are proud of the equipment and the history it has for Orangeville.

***D. UAMPS - Carbon Free Power - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that the Carbon Free Power project is moving along really well. He

reminded Council that joining the project was approved at the prior Council meeting. There was some question over how much electricity the City should acquire in the project at that time. He told Council he had proposed 2 megawatts, but after further investigation he would propose an increase to the original amount. There is funding from a previous project that the City invested money but was not built, and they can use those funds to pay for the siting phase of the project if they so choose. The cost will be much less to increase the allocation at this point, rather than adding more later.

Mr. Redd also stated that if more was allocated than is needed when the project is constructed, it can be sold or the City can choose to take less. Councilmember Laws commented that he feels the City should purchase 6 megawatts. He believes that as coal power leaves the market and natural gas becomes more regulated the City will need this new source. If the City purchases less at the beginning it will be buying more later at a price increase. Mr. Redd commented that 6 megawatts is more than currently projected City needs, and that he would be more comfortable purchasing 4 or 5 megawatts. The City has always been on the buying side of power, not the selling side, and that a 6 megawatt allocation could provide excess power to the City. Mayor Balch stated that this is a new power source, there are no plants of this kind, and it is entirely experimental. Councilmember Laws responded that the City can leave the project anywhere along the line if it feels it is not progressing or will benefit the City. Mr. Redd stated that many cities are entering the project conservatively because this is the first one of its kind. He continued to share that solar and wind are other available options, however those require baseload backup for when the sun isn't shining or the wind isn't blowing. Councilmember Laws asked how much UAMPS savings the City has that can be used for the project. Jeremy responded there is about \$68,000 in reserve funds.

**Councilmember Laws moved to enter the Carbon Free Power project at 6 megawatts of power. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Laws**  
**Councilmember Lyman**  
**Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion**

***E. Event Insurance Discussion - Kim Palmer***

Ms. Palmer told Council that after several discussions regarding the City's liability insurance it was determined that if an event is not sponsored by the City it is not and cannot be covered by City liability insurance. This means that activities such as the Renaissance Fair, club sports teams, sportsmen's banquets or other non City sponsored activities will need to provide their own coverage. She continued to tell Council that after discussing this issue with the City's insurance carrier it was determined that the City needs a facility use policy and agreement. This policy will outline the requirements and expectations for those organizers wanting to rent City facilities.

Councilmember Lyman stated that we should not require someone to have insurance to use our facility. Mr. Redd responded that the very least we need is to ensure they understand they are not covered by our insurance.

Councilmember Lyman asked how this affects activities such as Ward parties. Mr. Redd responded that those activities are not usually scheduled, so the City cannot be responsible for those activities they know nothing about. He continued to state that there is also some concern over the club sports teams from the area. These teams are not City sponsored and are not covered by the City liability insurance. When they travel to and from their tournaments, they are not covered. Councilmember Johnson asked how this applies to tournaments the City might sponsor. Mr. Redd responded that if it is City sponsored the tournament is covered under the liability insurance. He reassured Council that any accident that is because of the City's negligence will be covered regardless of whose activity it is, but if the accident is because of something the activity sponsor did or didn't do, that would be covered by their insurance.

6. **INFORMATION**

A. Councilmember Ogle reported that a Meet the Candidates night will be held Thursday, September 10th at 7:00 p.m. at the City office. It is sponsored by San Juan Chamber of Commerce.

B. Mr. Hosler shared an email he had received from Mike Brown, Eagle Air Med, stating they have no intention of moving their business out of the area, as had been rumored.

7. **OPEN FORUM**

None

8. **Councilmember Lyman moved to enter an executive session. Councilmember Laws seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council entered a closed session at 8:20 p.m.

**Councilmember Laws moved to leave the executive session. Councilmember Lyman seconded**

**the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Laws**



**Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting returned to regular session at 8:38 p.m.

**Councilmember Lyman made the motion to adjourn. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
AUGUST 25, 2015  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:	Calvin Balch
City Councilmembers:	David Johnson
	Kelly Laws
	Robert Ogle

Finance Director:	Kim Palmer
City Engineer:	Terry Ekker
Community Development Director:	Bret Hosler
City Police Chief:	Lloyd Watkins

Absent: Joe B. Lyman and Taylor Harrison

Community Members: Roma Young, Kendall Laws, Emily Laws, Ruth Johnson, Bob Bowring, Relva Bowring, Sherry Redd, Buddy Redd, Bishop Steve Black, Shauna Black, Randy Rarick, Donna Blake

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Mayor Balch.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Laws moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the August 11, 2015 meeting. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

### 3. OPEN FORUM

Chief stated he has submitted his intent to retire on November 1, 2015. He expressed his appreciation to the Council for their support over the past year. He spoke of the friendship the community has shown to his family and how he will miss the community. However, he is excited for the future.

#### **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

##### ***A. Mr. Ekker presented the Project Status Report***

##### **SCADA and metering for the 12" Mountain Line Replacement Project**

The Dry Wash project is close to being completed. Repairs are being completed on the 12" line by the contractor to eliminate the airlocks on that line.

##### **Backup Power at Water Treatment Plant**

Plans and specifications are being put together for advertising.

##### **Blanding Power Distribution Project**

This project has been postponed.

##### **East Side Sewer Trunk Line**

The right of way acquisition phase has begun.

##### **2015 Streets Project**

Mr. Ekker reported that the utility work is almost complete on 300 north and customers will be moved to the new water line soon. The project contractors have been creating potholes in various locations where manholes will be installed to verify the depth of the sewer. Based on the schedules provided by the engineer and contractor, the project will be completed this year. Of course this is also contingent on the weather. Councilmember Laws stated that the contract with the contractor is that all roads will be covered by winter to eliminate muddy roads for citizens. Mr. Ekker responded that he has spoken to the contractors and will monitor to ensure roads are covered by winter.

### **Emery Telcom Fiber and Cable Project**

The power pole on 300 West and Center has been replaced to resolve multiple NESC violations.

Overhead fiber is currently being inspected and a list of violations is being created. The City will work with Emery Telcom to fix the issues. There will be some cost sharing on these fixes between the City and Emery Telcom.

### ***B. Kim Palmer presented the July 2015 Financial Status Report***

Ms. Palmer told Council that the report is for the first month of the new fiscal year.

### ***C. Craig Stanley presented the July 2015 Fire Report***

Mr. Stanley reported that the department was called out to assist with a structure fire that consisted of a camp trailer and several cars. They had also assisted with two accidents, set up six landing zones and participated in training at the White Mesa Mill.

## **4. AGENDA ITEMS**

### ***A. July 4th Parade Awards - Robert Ogle***

Councilmember Ogle presented the trophies to the winners of the 4th of July parade. The following trophies were distributed; 1st place - Utah Navajo Health Systems; 2nd place - Utah State University Eastern; 3rd place - Blanding 8th Ward; People's Choice Award - Eagle Air Med and Honorable Mention - San Juan Pharmacy. Councilmember Ogle then presented a plaque of appreciation to Robert and Relva Bowring, who have served as the July 4th committee chairs for the past two years. He also recognized Buddy and Sherry Black who served as the parade chairs.

Mayor Balch then commented that the 4th of July celebration is the highlight of the year for the community. Many families gather at this time and look forward to the activities organized and sponsored by the City and local citizens. He expressed appreciation to the committee for the hard work they did to make it a great celebration. Mr. Bowring then expressed appreciation to Buddy and Sherry Redd and their efforts in organizing and overseeing the parade activity. He

also thanked Councilmember Ogle for his help and support.

***B. Canvass August 11, 2015 Primary Election - Kim Palmer***

Ms. Palmer told Council that the results from the primary election need to be canvassed. She told Council that overall the mail in process went very well. Of the ballots that were sent out 46 were returned as undeliverable, 3 ballots came in after the election, 5 ballots were received from outside City limits, 3 ballots were received with no signature and 1 ballot had a non- matching signature. She continued to tell Council that as this process becomes more familiar to residents it will become even more successful.

**Councilmember Ogle moved to accept the results of the August 11, 2015 primary election. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***C. City Clean-up Day Flyer Approval - Kim Palmer***

Council reviewed the clean-up day flyer that will be included in the September billing. Mayor Balch noted the paragraph discussing the disposal of what could be considered hazardous materials. Items such as toxic, reactive, corrosive, pesticides, liquids, batteries, bio-medical waste, used oil or reactive will not be picked up.

***D. Transfer Station Discussion - Kim Palmer***

Ms. Palmer told Council that there are important benefits to having the transfer station available to residents. The transfer station is close and convenient for citizens to access, it leads to a reduction in stored garbage on residential properties, and makes for a cleaner and healthier community both inside and outside City limits. The concern is with the financial

status of the facility. She shared that the revenues stay pretty level from year to year, but there has been a steady increase in expenses over the past three years. Most of those expenses are attributed to the cost of transferring the collected garbage to the White Mesa Landfill. The cost to have the garbage is determined by weight, which has been quite a lot at times.

She then told Council that during the winter hours very little activity occurs at the transfer station, while expenses are still occurring. The question to be asked is how much is the City willing to supplement the transfer station? Mayor Balch commented that the citizens are paying for the transfer station, either through the fee to dump or through their taxes. The citizens own the transfer station.

Councilmember Laws stated that in two years expenses have doubled. There are downsides to the transfer station, first anyone can go there, City residents, County residents, anyone. We really don't know who is using the facility. He also commented that it is not the City of Blanding's responsibility to take care of land outside of City limits. Those agencies have resources to patrol and take care of their own land. Ms. Palmer responded that may be true, but it's not very pleasant to go out for a walk or a drive and run across an old couch. The ability for residents to access the transfer station helps to curb the disposal of garbage in areas not designated for it. He stated that possibly the rates need to be changed to better offset the expenses.

Mayor Balch stated he feels we need to look at how we can better manage the landfill. Councilmember Johnson suggested the option of allowing for the privatization of the transfer station. Mayor responded that is something else that needs to be researched.

Council instructed Ms. Palmer to work with City Manager Jeremy Redd to develop some options on better managing the transfer station.

#### ***E. Possible Tower/Antenna Ordinance - Bret Hosler***

Mr. Hosler asked for feedback regarding a tower/antenna ordinance that had been discussed at a prior Council meeting. Mayor asked how many towers or antennas have been erected by citizens. Mr. Hosler responded there has not been any constructed by citizens that are over the height allowed by the ordinance. However commercial customers such as the

school district, the hospital and Frontier Communications have towers that are over the 50 foot limit. Council determined that there was no need to develop an ordinance at this time. Each request will be handled individually.

***F. UAMPS - CFPP Study Phase Siting Agreement - Terry Ekker***

Mr. Ekker told Council the agreement for participation in the UAMPS - Carbon-Free Power Project Study Phase Siting has been received. He reminded Council that the project was discussed in a prior meeting by Jackie Coombs. The cost to participate in the study would be \$6000. The funds would be used to proceed in securing a permit from the Federal government for the nuclear reactor project. Mayor Balch commented that the City can choose to leave the project at any point if it chooses.

Mr. Ekker stated that he and Mr. Redd recommend the City participate at a level of 2 megawatts (2,000 kW) or .6109% of the total site share. The total shares are 327,000. Mayor Balch then asked if more shares could be acquired if the City desired. Mr. Ekker responded that through his communication with Mr. Redd, he recommends staying at the 2 megawatt level.

Councilmember Laws asked who decided how many shares the City would acquire. Mr. Ekker replied that was decided at the same Council meeting Jackie Coombs had presented. None of the Council recalled that occurring. Councilmember Ogle commented that the cost of shares will increase if they are purchased later on. Councilmember Laws stated he was not comfortable with purchasing only 2 megawatts. Mayor Balch recommended the City sign the agreement to get involved in the project. He also stated the question of acquiring additional shares needs to be answered.

**Councilmember Laws moved to accept the UAMPS - CFPP Study Phase Siting Agreement. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

**5. INFORMATION**

None

**6. OPEN FORUM**

None

- 7. Councilmember Ogle moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
AUGUST 11, 2015  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:	Calvin Balch
City Councilmembers:	Taylor Harrison
	David Johnson
	Kelly Laws
	Joe Lyman
	Robert Ogle
City Manager:	Jeremy Redd
Finance Director:	Kim Palmer
City Engineer:	Terry Ekker
Community Development Director:	Bret Hosler
City Police Chief:	Lloyd Watkins

Community Members: Trevor Olson, Ruth S. Johnson, Scott Boyle.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Kelly Laws.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the July 28, 2015 meeting. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**

Bill Boyle from San Juan Record invited the council to the open house in October for the Canyonlands Discovery Center. He then offered to give a tour of the facility if any members of Council were interested in seeing the facility sooner. He stated that the center is similar to the cultural center project the City has been discussing.

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Mr. Ekker presented the July 2015 Natural Gas and Water Report***

Mr. Ekker Reported there were no new natural gas services added in July.

Mr. Ekker reported that precipitation for the year is at 106% of normal. Starvation Reservoir is full and water is now going back into the 4th Reservoir.

***B. Police Chief Lloyd Watkins presented the July 2015 Police Report***

Chief Watkins reported that the number of citations and violations were down during the month of July. He attributes that to the fact he is not writing as many tickets as he did last year. He also told Council that there have been some recent burglaries, but that they do not have the same profile as prior incidents, so he feels that these are different individuals. Councilmember Ogle asked about the high number of administrative hours on the report. Chief Watkins responded that was due to the several reports that were due after year end. This required more time than was typical to get them filed by their deadlines.

***C. Jeremy Redd presented the July 2015 Recreation Report***

Mr. Redd reported that soccer was in full swing and registration for football was also taking place. Revenues are close to the same as prior years. He then shared that there were no other communities in the area offering tackle football to 4th graders, and as a result 3rd and 4th graders will be playing flag football.

Mr. Redd told Council that the pool was scheduled to close on Labor Day. The number of swimmers drops significantly after school starts, making it less profitable to stay open. It is costing roughly \$200 a day for pool chemicals.

5. **AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. Appoint Planning Commission Member - Mayor Balch***

Mayor Balch asked for and received advice and consent to appoint Deb Bayles to the planning commission.

***B. City Clean-Up Day Information - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd reminded Council that that City clean up day has been scheduled for September 19th. The National Guard will have a large group of guard members and equipment to haul off large items and scrap metal for residents. They request the items be brought to the curb by noon for easy pickup. Scott Marian has agreed to allow the scrap to be placed at his shop and he will haul it to be recycled. Councilmember Laws asked if the transfer station would be open or if the garbage would need to be taken to the county's White Mesa landfill. Mr. Redd responded the transfer station will not be open, but the County has agreed to provide staff at the County landfill and the City will pay the dumping fees for City residents on that day. Mayor Balch asked if appliances will be allowed. Mr. Redd responded that appliances would be allowed, however refrigerators, because of their need to be handled differently, may not. He also told Council that advertising would be done and a flyer will go out in the billing.

***C. Household Income Survey - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd discussed the upcoming household survey. The survey will include both income and demographic information. It will be mailed out to residents and if it is not returned a second survey will be sent. If a good cross section and true picture of the community is not received, the company will come and reach out to residents by going door to door. Councilmember Ogle asked what a high response rate would be. Mr. Redd responded a rate of 25%. He reminded Council that the USDA has approved the survey and the methodology that will be used. The survey results will be used for the next ten years to help Blanding qualify for favorable grant and loan funding. He also anticipates the survey to give a better representation of the community than the last census.

***D. Possible Tower/Antenna Ordinance - Bret Hosler***

Mr. Hosler reported that a local business has contacted the City about requested permission in the future to place a higher tower than the City ordinance currently allows. The current policy is part of the City land use ordinances which require commercial structures to be under 50 feet high. The requesting business would like a 65 foot tower. Mr. Hosler asked Council for direction on how to handle this particular request. The question was raised regarding the towers on the school district and Frontier Communications buildings. Mr. Hosler responded that state facilities do not have to adhere to the City ordinance, and Frontier was granted individual permission by the City Council to place a higher tower. Mr. Redd asked Council if they would like to develop an ordinance to handle these situations or deal with requests on a case by case basis. Councilmember Laws stated that dealing with requests on a case by case basis could lead to problems. It was determined that the topic of developing a tower/antenna ordinance will come back for discussion.

***E. Annexation Request - Bret Hosler***

Mr. Hosler told Council that a request has been made by Lewis Black to annex six parcels adjacent to the current City limits. This request has led to four different possible annexation proposals. The largest of the proposals would take in 26 different parcels. Mr. Redd stated that Paul Macdonald has also expressed interest in the possibility of annexing his property. If Mr. Macdonald chooses to annex, others in the area would also have to annex to avoid creating islands of non-annexed properties in the area. Since islands are not allowed, if others chose not to annex, the property in questions would also not be allowed to annex.

Councilmember Laws told the Council that for the past 18 years the City has only annexed those wanting to annex. No one has ever been forced to annex. He does not feel the City should force anyone to annex.

Mayor Balch said it will be best to see who is interested in annexing before discussing options. Those conversations will generate options.

Councilmember Lyman stated he is not supportive of forcing anyone to annex that chooses not to.

Mr. Redd stated that there is a need for direction from Council on how to deal with a situation where the individual chooses not to annex when other properties in the area annex and then later approaches the City requesting annexation. It is much more costly to the City to handle annexation requests individually rather than bringing in multiple properties at the same time.

Council directed Mr. Hosler to visit with those in the area that can possibly be annexed and get their feelings on the opportunity to annex at the expense of the City.

***F. Ballot Proposition - Do's & Don'ts - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council there were two propositions on the upcoming ballot in November. The City has the ZAP tax proposition and the County has the local option transportation sales tax proposition. He explained what was acceptable to do and not do under state law, and that using taxpayer funds or official email addresses to advocate for or against a proposition is not allowed. Councilmember Ogle asked what the difference was between advocating a position and expressing an opinion. Mr. Redd responded that it all depends on how you approach the topic, and that the best way to express an opinion is to make it apparent that you are expressing your personal opinion and not speaking on behalf of the City. The Council discussed the best way to answer questions regarding the ZAP tax. It

was determined the City has not taken a position on the propositions, so the best way to discuss it would be to state the facts surrounding the proposed tax.

6. **INFORMATION**

**A. Primary Election Results - After 8:00 p.m. - Jeremy Redd**

Mr. Redd shared the uncertified primary election results. The results were, Joe Lyman 321 votes, Trevor Olsen 320 votes, Kathrina Perkins 291 votes, Ruth S. Johnson 205 votes, Travis Whatcott 172 votes, Trent Herring 132 votes, and Emil Romero 114. The six candidates receiving the most votes will be on the ballot for the November election. There were 557 votes or 1351 registered voters. 41% of those who received ballots voted, which was a significant increase from the last municipal election.

7. **OPEN FORUM**

Ruth Johnson asked if old pesticides, cleaners, and oils will be collected during the cleanup. Mr. Redd responded that he was not sure if the landfill will accept them, but he would find out.

8. **Councilmember Lyman moved to enter an executive session. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council entered an executive session at 8:15 p.m.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to leave the executive session. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote.**

**Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Ogle**

Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison

Those voting NAY

NONE

Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.

Council left the executive session at 8:47 p.m.

Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote.

Voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE

Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Harrison

Those voting NAY

NONE

Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
JULY 28, 2015  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

City Councilmembers:

Calvin Balch  
Taylor Harrison  
David Johnson  
Kelly Laws  
Joe Lyman  
Robert Ogle

City Manager:

Finance Director:

City Engineer:

Community Development Director:

City Police Chief:

Recreation Director:

Jeremy Redd  
Kim Palmer  
Terry Ekker  
Bret Hosler  
Lloyd Watkins  
David Palmer

Community Members: Terri Laws, Roma Young, Lynne Shumway, Gary Guymon, Kendall Laws, Dallin Redd, John Raisor, Alan Hunt, Kathleen Lyman, Craig Simpson, Elaine Borgen, Amili Nairrot, Ryan Prichett.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Joe Lyman.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Ogle moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the July 14, 2015 meeting. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Those Abstaining**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

### **3. OPEN FORUM**

Ryan Prichett from Armstrong Engineering shared he was in Blanding meeting with City staff discussing the project scheduled for later in the year.

Gary Guymon stated that in regards to the upcoming discussion about the Better Cities project, he understood there would challenges with the project. He also said the project could affect local businesses. However, his fellow restaurant and motel owners feel the project should continue to the feasibility study.

Buddy Black, a local motel owner, stated he does not see a 5 star hotel coming to the area, and that Blanding is not a location for this type of business. He expressed his support for the proposed cultural center. He felt the college would be a good partner to the project, because of the model used at the Polynesian Center in Hawaii. He continued to state that the funds being expended to hire an outside entity to study the project would be better used to get the project going by locals.

Elaine Borgen told Council that she has little knowledge of the financial or resolution history of the project. She shared that tourists are making up 60% of their business. Visitors at her business inquire about the Navajo culture in the area. She supports the project.

Craig Simpson felt that the community has always underestimated the potential for tourism in the area. There are many looking for that Native American or western experience, which is the strongest draw to the area. The landscape is also an attraction to the area. He recommends the idea of a culture center continue to be explored. He voiced a concern over bringing in large chain motels and restaurants. He would like to see the funds generated from the project stay local. He is in support of the project.



Alan Hunt shared he believes there will be a cultural center in the area, if not today in the future. He then stated the cultural center is part of the mission of the area.

Tim Chamberlain commented that the reason this type of project has not occurred yet is because the community was not ready for it. With the growth of the college and the hospital things are in place now. The community needs to take control and not let some outside entity take it. Tourism will benefit the community, schools, and businesses. He recommends the project move forward.

#### **4. REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

##### ***A. Mr. Redd presented the June 2015 Fire Status Report***

Mr. Redd reported that June was busier than normal for the fire department. The department participated in training, callouts and landing zones. Mayor commented that the fire restrictions have been lifted on the Forest.

#### **5. AGENDA ITEMS**

##### ***A. Resolution 7-28-2015-1 Committing Funding for the Purpose of Providing Matching Funds for Federal Grant Assistance – Joe Lyman***

Councilmember Lyman stated that it may appear he has a personal opinion regarding the proposed culture center because of this business. However, only 3% of his business comes from his Blanding retail sales at this time. His personal philosophy is that government should not be involved in this type of project, but in reality it is. He agrees there are many unanswered questions regarding the project, but the proposed investment of money is to answer the questions. He then stated that the decision to build the project is not being made at this meeting, the decision is being made to move forward in studying if the project is feasible or not.

Mayor Balch stated that one thing that needs to be considered is the cost of the study, which is as much as \$100,000, which is a lot of money. It was then stated that the funds, being proposed for research and study are not tax dollars coming from taxpayers, but rather TRT dollars. Mr. Redd shared that the funds would be used as a match in a 70%/30% grant. If the grant is not funded the project will not move forward. He also stated that he has learned that if the cultural center is determined not to be feasible financially or otherwise, provisions can be written in to the contract the end the process at certain pre-defined points.

Councilmember Laws shared that he had visited with several community members who are not interested in tourism. He feels that Blanding will eventually become a tourist community, whether the community moves it that way or not. He continued to say that it was important to learn what the community wants and how they feel about this proposed project. Many people live here because they like the way Blanding is. He agreed that there are many questions that need to be answered before the project moves forward.

Councilmember Harrison responded that he has had the opposite response. He has spoken to individuals who are in support of the idea and the study to see if the project is feasible.

Councilmember Ogle stated that he is in support of the idea, but is not in a hurry to make the decision, without more community input. He also felt that three years was far too long for a study to take place.

Councilmember Johnson stated that he feels there are many people in the community that could design and pull the project together, however an independent person will be more objective in what is needed, what can and cannot be successful.

Councilmember Lyman commented he feels the project will enhance the community, rather than change the character of it. Councilmember Harrison stated that the community needs growth to bring employment that allows individuals to make an adequate living for families. Without it many will have to leave the area.

Councilmember Laws stated that this project is moving too quick, without input from community members. The question is what type of character do the residents of Blanding want for their community. Thirty-days is not long enough to determine the answer to that question.

Mayor Balch stated the question is are we going to commit the funds to study the potential project. He reminded everyone that the vote tonight was to pursue a contract not approve one.

Councilmember Lyman moved to approve *Resolution 7-28-2015-1 Committing Funding for the Purpose of Providing Matching Funds for Federal Grant Assistance*. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE

Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle

Those voting NAY

Councilmember Laws

Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.

***B. Appoint Planning Commission Member – Mayor Balch***

Mayor Balch appointed Mike Moulton to serve on the Planning Commission. Council gave advice and consent for the appointment.

***C. Progress on Annexation Policy Update by Planning Commission – Joe B Lyman***

Councilmember Lyman gave accolades to Kathy Hurst who has been working to update and clarify the annexation policy. Mr. Redd commented that when the changes are complete the policies will be reviewed by the City Attorney for legality before being adopted. This update will also codify the annexation policy.

***D. Wellness Center Entrance - Architectural Review - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that Matocha Associates from Monticello have designed three draft ideas to repair the entrance to the Wellness Center. He reminded Council that funds had been budgeted to make the repairs. The engineering on the project could cost between \$6,000 and \$10,000. Mr. Redd is seeking approval to hire an architect to design the project. Advice and Consent was given to hire an architect for the repair on the entrance to the Wellness Center.

***E. Concrete Raising - Wellness Center Swimming Pool - Jeremy Redd/David Palmer***

Mr. Palmer explained to Council the situation regarding the sinking of the concrete on the pool deck. The settling of the deck has created some uneven places, making trip hazards. A contractor was hired to come in and raise the concrete. However, as he started lifting it was discovered that it will take more product than anticipated to fix the issue. The worst areas have been repaired, but there are other areas that need repair. A bid of \$7,000 to complete the project has been received from the contractor, making the total cost of \$10,869. The bid was given as a not to exceed, so there should be no additional cost. Mr. Redd told Council that because of the increase in the cost he felt it important to share this with the Council. The additional funds will be budgeted from savings. The Council gave advice and consent to move forward with the repairs.

Mr. Palmer also shared that school football teams are allowing 7th graders to play with 8th graders. This change has required that an adjustment be made to local recreation teams. 5th and 6th graders will now play together. He also shared that no other local communities are allowing tackle football for their 3rd and 4th graders. This is also a change.

***F. Finance Director/Treasurer Job Description Review - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd reminded Council that as directed by Council senior staff job descriptions would be coming to Council for review. The Finance Director/Treasurer is the first of those. Other senior staff job descriptions will be shared with Council over the next few meetings. The Council suggested no changes to the description.

**6. INFORMATION**

A. Mr. Redd told Council that he has heard from some Council members who are interested in attending the annual league conference. He asked if there were others interested and if so would they let him know. He will be booking rooms soon.

**7. OPEN FORUM**

Gary Guymon expressed his appreciation for the passage of the resolution earlier in the meeting.

Buddy Black also expressed appreciation for the opportunity to participate in the meeting.

**8. Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn to a closed session. Councilmember Ogle seconded**

**the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council entered a closed session at 8:50 p.m.

**Councilmember Johnson moved to leave the closed session. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council returned to open session at 9:25 p.m.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Lyman seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
JULY 14, 2015  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

Calvin Balch

City Councilmembers:

Kelly Laws

David Johnson

Robert Ogle

Taylor Harrison

City Administrator:

Jeremy Redd

Finance Director:

Kim Palmer

City Engineer:

Terry Ekker

Police Chief

Lloyd Watkins

Absent:

Joe B. Lyman

Community Members: Terri Laws, Kendall Laws, Bayley Hedglin, Travis Whatcott.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by David Johnson.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Laws moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the June 23, 2015 meeting. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Abstaining**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**

A. Bayley Hedglin from San Juan County Chamber of Commerce shared information about a job fair on July 22<sup>nd</sup> 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm and on July 23<sup>rd</sup> from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm. The fair is being sponsored by the contractor for the windmill project in Monticello. They are looking for a variety of skilled individuals.

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Mr. Ekker presented the June 2015 Gas and Water Report***

Mr. Ekker reported that gas usage was up a little bit in June. One new ½" service was added.

Mr. Ekker reported that the annual precipitation was at 95% when the report was completed, but after the recent storms it is now at 109% of normal. 785 acre feet of water has been purchased from the Blanding Irrigation Company.

***B. Police Chief Watkins presented the June 2015 Police Report***

Chief Watkins reported that the department participated in several trainings during the month of June. Councilmember Ogle asked how officer Sickels was doing after his recent injury. Chief Watkins responded that he was doing well and back on patrol. Councilmember Johnson asked about the number of vandalisms on the report. Chief responded that they were mostly graffiti and two incidents where someone tried to break into a hotel pool and the Head Start building. The number of vehicle break-ins had reduced to nothing during June. What caused that reduction is unknown.

5. **AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. City Council Salary Increase – Kelly Laws***

Councilmember Laws explained that during the budget process it was determined that a salary increase for Councilmembers was needed. He suggested an increase would be appropriate for those elected to take office in January 2016. The rate would increase from \$200 - \$300 per month. Other members and the mayor would see an increase when their seats come up for reelection. The Mayor's salary will increase to \$400 beginning after the 2017 election.

**Councilmember Laws moved to approve an increase to \$300 for the three council seats that are up for election in November. The increase will take place beginning January 2016. The remaining two seats and the mayor will be increased to \$300 for the remaining two Councilmembers and \$400 for the Mayor beginning in January 2018. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Johnson**



Those voting NAY

NONE

Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.

***B. Resolution 7-14-2015-1 Adopting the General Property Tax Rate – Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that the current tax rate is .002475, with reassessment of values and taking the taxes on new growth would increase the certified tax rate to .002493. He continued to tell Council that it has been several years since the entire growth amount has been taken. He then stated that there were several individuals who have been annexed into the City, and taking the growth would allow the City to receive those growth tax dollars. Not taking the growth would mean that current residents would be paying to support these new additions. Mr. Redd recommended that the increase in growth be taken, and the rate be set at .002493, which is the certified rate.

Councilmember Johnson asked what the dollar amount of the increase would be per resident. Mr. Redd responded that the increase would be approximately \$2.70 on a \$150,000 home. He reminded Council not taking the growth would mean those growth dollars would not be available again. This could have an impact in the future, and that the assessment of values change yearly, so some years the certified rate represents an increase to homeowners and some years it represents a decrease.

Councilmember Laws stated that it appears we are taking these funds to prepare for the upcoming Better Cities project. It was his understanding that there would be no cost to the City for the project, but we are increasing taxes to cover infrastructure and then stating there will be no cost to residents for the project.

Mr. Redd clarified that all direct and upfront costs of the Better Cities project will be covered by TRT, but there could be a cost to the residents and the City at some future date.

Councilmember Harrison asked what impact staying rate neutral would have. Mr. Redd responded that staying rate neutral would actually reduce the amount of tax dollars, due to the decrease in valuation on some properties.

Councilmember Johnson stated that taking a small increase now would be better than having to take a larger increase in the future.

Councilmember Johnson moved to approve Resolution 7-14-2015-1 Adopting the General Property Tax Rate. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE

Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Harrison

Those voting NAY

NONE

Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.

***C. Resolution 7-14-2015-2 - Intent to Place Before the Blanding City Voters an Opinion About Reauthorizing a 1/10th of 1% Sales Tax (ZAP Tax) to Fund Recreational Facilities in Blanding City - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that it was time to renew the 1/10<sup>th</sup> of 1% sales tax (ZAP Tax) that was implemented to help fund the Wellness Center. This resolution is needed to put the tax on the ballot, allowing citizens to voice their opinion on continuing to collect the tax. There was \$33,333.58 collected last year. If the tax is approved it will be in effect for 10 years. Councilmember Harrison expressed his concern that many of the individuals that live outside City limits have no voice in the implementation of the tax, yet they shop here and pay the tax on a regular basis. The tax affects more than just those that are living within City limits. Councilmember Ogle stated that he doesn't feel the tax makes any difference in operating the Wellness Center, and he would like to see it go away. Councilmember Harrison voiced his disagreement and stated that the funding is needed to operate the center. Councilmember Laws stated that the question really is how the Wellness Center will operate when the funding currently being received from San Juan County is complete.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to approve Resolution 7-14-2015-2 *Intent to Place Before the Blanding City Voters an Opinion About Reauthorizing a 1/10th of 1% Sales Tax (ZAP Tax) to Fund Recreational Facilities in Blanding City.* Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

Those voting AYE

Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Harrison

Those voting NAY

Councilmember Ogle

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***D. Backhoe Lease - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd stated that John Deere has been awarded the state contract to lease backhoes. The annual lease payment would be \$891.10. Mayor Balch asked if the City would be paying a monthly or yearly lease. Mr. Redd responded that it was a year lease. The lease allows for 300 hours on each machine per year. Any hours over 300 would be charged at \$20 per hour.

Councilmember Laws stated that there are hidden costs that we need to be aware of, however the lease amount is reasonable and it's a good idea to take the lease. When the equipment goes back to the dealer after the lease it will be resold. Many smaller contractors who cannot afford new equipment pick up these leased vehicles at a more reasonable rate. They are usually in good condition because they are maintained by the lease company. The machine would still belong to Honnen who would be responsible for the repairs. They will willingly come to do those repairs, however the City will be obligated to pay for the travel.

Mayor Balch asked what the price of a new backhoe was. Mr. Redd responded he was unsure what that amount was. Councilmember Laws asked how much the security deposit would be. Mr. Redd stated that he would research those questions and email the Council with those answers.

Advice and Consent was given to lease the backhoes from John Deere.

6. **INFORMATION**

A. There was none

7. **OPEN FORUM**

A. There were no comments from the public

8. **Councilmember Harrison moved to enter a closed session to discuss personnel and land. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council entered a closed session at 7:55 pm.

9. **Councilmember Ogle moved to leave the closed session. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Council returned to open session at 8:17 pm

10. **Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
JUNE 23, 2015  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:	Calvin Balch
City Councilmembers:	David Johnson
	Kelly Laws
	Joe Lyman
	Robert Ogle
City Manager:	Jeremy Redd
Finance Director:	Kim Palmer
City Engineer:	Terry Ekker
Community Development Director:	Bret Hosler
City Police Chief:	Lloyd Watkins

Absent: Taylor Harrison

Community Members: Terri Laws, Roma Young, Lynne Shumway, Gary Guymon, Trent Herring, Kendall Laws, Jared Berrett, Adam Hughes.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Jeremy Redd.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the June 9, 2015 meeting. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

<b>Those voting AYE</b>	<b>Councilmember Johnson</b>
	<b>Councilmember Laws</b>
	<b>Councilmember Lyman</b>
<b>Those voting NAY</b>	<b>NONE</b>
<b>Those Abstaining</b>	<b>Councilmember Ogle</b>

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**

No Comments

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Mr. Ekker presented the Project Status Report***

**SCADA and metering for the 12" Mountain Line Replacement Project**

Mr. Ekker reported that the preliminary plans for the 3rd Reservoir SCADA station is underway. The design on the Dry Wash station is moving forward.

**Backup Power at the Water Treatment Plant**

Mr. Ekker reported that bidding for the generator will be completed in the next month or two.

**Blanding Power Distribution Project**

Project has been postponed.

**East Side Trunk Line Project**

Mr. Ekker told Council that the right-of-way acquisition has begun. Mr. Redd stated that USDA has requested the community survey plan for approval. It must be approved by USDA, if it is not approved the survey will not take place. Councilmember Johnson asked how the response has been to the request for right-of-ways. Mr. Redd responded that overall the response has been positive with most seeing the benefit of the project.

**2015 Streets Project**

Mr. Ekker reported that LeGrand Johnson Construction had been awarded the project. The project will begin somewhere near the 27th of July. An asphalt test strip has been completed on Center Street. LeGrand Johnson's subcontractors will be completing some preliminary work on the water vaults to get them ready before the main project begins.

**Emery Telcom Fiber and Cable Project**

Mr. Ekker shared that fiber is currently being installed by Emery Telcom on the poles on Blue Mountain Road, just outside City limits. Councilmember Laws asked if the Emery Telecom and the Streets project will be occurring at the same time. Mr. Ekker responded that it is possible. Councilmember Laws asked if Emery Telcom was aware a street cut permit will not be issued once the new asphalt is laid. Mr. Ekker responded that yes, Emery Telcom is aware.

5. **AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. Better City Economic Development Presentation - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd introduced Adam Hughes, the Chief Operating Officer with Better City, which is a company that specializes in economic development. Mr. Hughes told Council that Better City specializes in driving strategies and projects to increase job and economic growth in communities. He discussed the various assets found in their evaluation of Blanding and its surrounding area. Those assets include, natural beauty, high visitation by international and domestic patrons, unique native culture, native arts, and a willing volunteer network. Challenges they found include, local employment and labor participation, educational attainment, and private land constraints. One solution to meeting the challenges is constructing a destination attraction such as a Native American Cultural Center/Old West Experience. This project would be tourism focused.

Mr. Redd told Council that the next step in the process would be to request a grant from the United States Economic Development Administration to obtain technical assistance in implementing the identified economic development strategy. The cost in developing these strategies will be \$106,000 per year, for three years. If awarded, the Federal grant will provide up to 70% of the total funds. The remaining 30% will be funded by the state, city and county. The Blanding Area Travel Council has voted to encourage the Council to approve the \$20,000 each year for three years. The funds would come from their marketing budget, which is funded by TRT taxes collected. Better City would take the funds to leverage matching funds from private investors and grant funds.

Mayor Balch asked how the current City's small businesses would be affected by the project. Gary Guymon, a local motel owner, responded to the concern by saying he did not see this happening. What we need to do is better our infrastructure and encourage more people to stay in the area. He feels like it is a positive thing which will in turn benefit all the small businesses in the community. Mayor Balch commented that he can see the benefits in the long term, but is concerned with the short term effects. Councilmember Ogle had attended the travel and tourism meeting held earlier and heard the positive support for the idea from those attending. Business owner Jared Berrett stated that there is a need by local businesses to get people to stop in Blanding, not just come through on their way somewhere else. He feels the potential benefit is huge compared to the cost.

Councilmember Laws stated that when something sounds really good, it is a good time to stop and really look into it. His biggest concern would be how comfortable the City residents would be with the project.

It is important to get some feedback from the community before the project goes forward. Mr. Hughes responded that it has been discussed with citizens, elected officials, and business owners with positive responses. Councilmember Laws then asked what type of jobs would be available, the impact

to City infrastructure, and financial cost to the City. Mr. Redd responded that City infrastructure could accommodate the project.

Mayor Balch asked who would received the funding raised for the project. Mr. Hughes responded that the funds would be coming to the project. The funds would come both from private investors and from tax dollars from increased property values. The majority of the funds will come through private investors

while the public side will fill the remaining gap. For the project to succeed there will be a need for both private and public funding. Without both types of funding, there will be no project.

After further discussion it was agreed that the topic be tabled until next Council meeting to allow Council members to get feedback from residents and further review materials provided by Mr. Hughes and Better City.

***B. Resolution 6-23-2015-3 Committing Funding For The Purpose of Providing Matching Funds for Federal Grant Assistance - Jeremy Redd***

This item was tabled until next Council meeting.

***C. Election Options - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd shared with Council the three option available for the upcoming primary and general election.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve contracting with San Juan County for a vote-by-mail 2015 Municipal Election. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***D. Resolution 6-23-2015-2 - Adjusting the FY2014-2015 Budget- Kim Palmer***

Ms. Palmer told Council that there was a need to make an adjustment to the 2014-2015 budget. She continued to explain that there was an anticipated fire grant that the City has yet to receive. Those funds are requested to be reallocated to the Airport and Wellness Center accounts to allow for additional expenditures beyond the original budgeted amounts. The airport was over budget due to



the unexpected need to replace reil lights on the runway and replace light fixtures in the big hangar. The Wellness Center was over because of the reallocation of salaries to areas where the work by employees was actually being completed and the unanticipated need to repair equipment. 30% of the new maintenance employees' salary is also allocated to the Wellness Center.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve Resolution 6-23-2015-2 - Adjusting the FY2014-2015 Budget.**

**Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***E. Resolution 6-23-2015-2 - Supporting the .25% Local Option Sales Tax for Transportation to be Sent to Voters in November 2015 - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd reminded Council of the previous resolution encouraging the Utah State Legislature to pass a law allowing the .25% local option sales tax. That resolution was not passed by the City Council. The bill associated with the sales tax was passed by the Legislature, without a resolution of support from Blanding City. San Juan County is considering putting the tax on the ballot to see if residents are interested in implementing it. This proposed resolution is in support of putting it on the ballot for the voters to decide, and not a resolution supporting the tax. He also stated that if the vote on the tax is not successful it can not be added later. Councilmember Ogle stated he will not support the tax or a resolution encouraging that it be placed on the ballot.

**Councilmember Johnson moved to approve Resolution 6-23-2015-2 Supporting the .25% Local Option**

**Sales Tax for Transportation to be Sent to Voters in November 2015. Councilmember Laws seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Those voting NAY**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting AYE**

**Mayor Balch**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***F. Approval of Vehicle Maintenance Service Quote - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd explained that the bids have been received for City vehicle maintenance. Canyonlands Tire was the low bidder. They will provide service in all areas where they have the expertise. If they don't have the equipment or expertise another shop will be contacted to complete the work.

**Councilmember Laws moved to award the bid for vehicle maintenance to Canyonlands Tire. Councilmember Lyman seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**None**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***G. July 4th Information - Robert Ogle***

Councilmember Ogle expressed appreciation to Robert and Relva Bowring and the entire 4th of July Committee. The fireworks display will be conducted by Firestorm Pyrotechnics, who also do the Stadium of Fire in Provo each year. Doctor Joe Wilson is supporting the fireworks with a generous donation.

**6. INFORMATION**

A. Mr. Redd asked who would be riding on the Council float. The Mayor and Councilmembers Laws and Ogle responded that they would be riding.

B. Senator Mike Lee's staff will be conducting a mobile office from 2-4 p.m. on Wednesday, June 24th in the Blanding City Council chambers.

C. Mr. Ekker told Council that the Dry Wash dam should be substantially completed by the first of August.

7. **OPEN FORUM**

Trent Herring commented on the Better City presentation asking if the estimated 30 jobs stated in the presentation were jobs associated with the project or included other businesses. Mr. Hughes responded that they were associated with only the project. Other employment opportunities may be generated by other businesses not directly associated with the original project.

8. **Councilmember Ogle moved to adjourn. Councilmember Lyman seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
JUNE 9, 2015  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:

City Councilmembers:

Calvin Balch  
Taylor Harrison  
David Johnson  
Kelly Laws  
Joe Lyman  
Kim Palmer  
Terry Ekker  
Lloyd Watkins

Financial Director:

City Engineer:

Chief of Police:

Absent: City Manager Jeremy Redd, Councilmember Robert Ogle

Community Members: Kathy Hurst, Ruth Johnson

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Kim Palmer.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. Prior to the approval of the minutes and financial disbursements, Councilmember Lyman expressed concern with the City office lights being left on when no one is in the building. Turning off the lights if only for short time could generate savings in the amount of electricity used. Ms. Palmer responded that more effort would be made to ensure all lights are off when no one is in the building.

Mayor Balch expressed appreciation for how quickly the new handicap signs were placed near the skate park on 300 west. Mr. Ekker responded that since the new ones were installed, one has already been stolen. New signs will be installed on poles, cemented in the ground to reduce the ability to steal them.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the May 26, 2015 meeting. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated**

the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE

Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Lyman

Those voting NAY

NONE

Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.

3. **OPEN FORUM**

None

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Terry Ekker presented the May 2015 Gas Report***

Mr. Ekker reported that the number of ½" services in the City is at 1001, with the two new services added in May. He also told Council that the issues with the odorizer have been resolved and it is now repaired.

***B. Terry Ekker presented the May 2015 Water Report***

Mr. Ekker reported that annual precipitation is currently at 95% of normal. 448 acre feet has been purchased from the Blanding Irrigation Company so far. Water in the 4th Reservoir is about 3" from the spillway. Water will now be going into the 3rd from the new 12" line and into Starvation from the old line. There is currently 125 acre feet in Starvation.

***C. Chief Lloyd Watkins presented the May 2015 Police Report***

Chief Watkins discussed the May police report, pointing out the portion of the report that breaks out service hours for each officer. He is still working to improve the report and would take any suggestions Council may have. Councilmember Johnson stated how he liked the current report.

***D. Kim Palmer reported the May 2015 Fire Report***

Ms. Palmer reported that May had been fairly busy for the department with training and call-outs. The department also participated in a mock shooting incident at Blue Mountain Hospital. Chief Watkins shared that the mock shooting incident involved the City, fire and sheriff departments and the hospital. The training was beneficial to all those who participated and showed areas that needed improvement in providing support if such an incident actually occurred.

***E. Kim Palmer reported the May 2015 Recreation Report***

Ms. Palmer reported that baseball and softball are well underway. T-ball, boys and girls machine pitch seasons have ended. Soccer registrations will begin next week.

5. **AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. Public & Open Meeting Training – Mayor Balch***

Mayor Balch discussed the information regarding the open and public meeting act. From the document he reminded Council that deliberations regarding City business be conducted openly.

He also shared information regarding items being placed on the agenda. The act states that “If an item is not on the agenda, no final action can be taken on that item. However, at the discretion of the chair of the meeting, an item not on the agenda, brought up by the public, can be discussed, if no final action is taken on the matter.” Council also discussed the guidelines under which a closed session could be entered.

Councilmember Lyman stated that it would be good for the Planning Commission to review the information from the open meetings act to ensure they are also following the law.

***B. Approval of 2015/2016 Fiscal Year Budget – Kim Palmer***

Ms. Palmer told Council that the document in their packet is the same report that will be filed with the state, minus the coloring and cash flow information. She also told them that the budget includes all the items discussed at the work session and was now ready for their approval.

**Councilmember Laws moved to approve the 2015/2016 Fiscal Year Budget. Councilmember Lyman seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion.**

Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE

Councilmember Harrison

Councilmember Johnson

Councilmember Laws

Councilmember Lyman

Those voting NAY

NONE

Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion

***C. Surplus Vehicle Sale Approval – Kim Palmer***

Ms. Palmer explained that the 2003 Ford Explorer had been left off the surplus list approved at the last Council meeting.

**Councilmember Laws moved to add the 2003 Ford Explorer to the surplus list.**

**Councilmember**

**Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion.**

Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:

Those voting AYE

Councilmember Harrison

Councilmember Johnson

Councilmember Laws

Councilmember Lyman

Those voting NAY

NONE

Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion

***D. Police Chief Agreement – Kim Palmer***

Ms. Palmer told Council that Mr. Redd had discussed the Council's concerns with the previous agreement. The changes recommended by the Council were verified as legal and the change

made. The document now includes those changes and is ready for the approval of the Council.

**Councilmember Laws moved to approve the Police Chief Agreement. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion**

***E. Approval for Use of Park for Car Show – Kim Palmer***

Ms. Palmer told Council that the Rotary Club would like to use the grass at the old swimming pool location for a car show fundraiser. The event is scheduled on July 3, from 3 – 7 p.m. with dinner served from 5 – 7 p.m.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to approve the use of the old swimming pool grass by the Rotary Club for a fundraiser. Councilmember Lyman seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**



**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion**

**6. INFORMATION**

A. Councilmember Johnson shared that he had visited with an individual interested in building a natural gas power plant in the area. The cost for the construction will be roughly one million dollars. He would like to purchase the natural gas from the City, the City would have the opportunity to purchase the power from the plant. It is estimated that 1 megawatt would be generated at the plant. Councilmember Laws asked how this might affect the City's natural gas system. Mr. Ekker responded that it would probably not overload the current system. Councilmember Johnson then stated that he had advised this individual to get his information together including costs and bring it to the Council.

B. Ms. Palmer told Council that seven individuals had filed for the three open council chairs. Those filing include; Joe B. Lyman, Ruth S. Johnson, Trent Herring, KD Perkins, Trevor Olson, Emil Romero and Travis Whatcott. The primary election will be held on August 11 and the general election on November 3. The general election will be handled by mail. Ms. Palmer then stated that Mr. Redd will have more information regarding the primary at next Council meeting.

C. Ms. Palmer shared that Lieutenant Governor, Spencer Cox, will be participating in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.

**7. OPEN FORUM**

None

- 8. Councilmember Laws moved to adjourn. Councilmember Lyman seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
MAY 26, 2015  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:	Calvin Balch
City Councilmembers:	Taylor Harrison
	David Johnson
	Kelly Laws
	Joe Lyman
	Robert Ogle
City Manager:	Jeremy Redd
Finance Director:	Kim Palmer
City Engineer:	Terry Ekker
Community Development Director:	Bret Hosler
City Police Chief:	Lloyd Watkins

Community Members: Terri Laws, Roma Young, Tiffany Giddings, DeeAnn Hunt

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Taylor Harrison.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Johnson moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the May 28, 2015 meeting. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**

No Comments

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Mr. Ekker presented the Project Status Report***

**SCADA and metering for the 12" Mountain Line Replacement Project**

Mr. Ekker reported a review of the preliminary plans for the 3rd reservoir SCADA station is underway. The design on the Dry Wash SCADA station is moving forward. He also reported that the mountain pipeline engineer and contractor are working to resolve and repair the air-lock issues found in the line.

**Backup Power at the Water Treatment Plant**

Mr. Ekker reported that options for backup power have been evaluated for this project. The location for the backup generator is currently being finalized. Bidding for the generator will be completed in the next month.

**Blanding Power Distribution Project**

Mr. Ekker reported that the project has been postponed. Options for rebidding the project are currently being considered.

**East Side Trunk Line Project**

Mr. Ekker told Council that the project is entering the land/right of way acquisition phase. The funding for the project is in process and could be funded in late summer or early fall.

**2015 Streets Project**

Mr. Ekker reported that LeGrand Johnson Construction had been awarded the project. It is anticipated that a notice to proceed will occur in the next couple of weeks.

**Emery Telcom Fiber and Cable Project**

Mr. Ekker shared that fiber is currently being installed by Emery Telcom. Conduit has been laid across the dam and is completed to Pinion Ridge road. Councilmember Lyman asked if the project was ahead of schedule. Mr. Ekker responded that it is ahead in some areas and behind in others. Mayor Balch asked if the fiber would be placed in the streets or alongside of them. Mr. Ekker responded that the majority of the lines will be placed overhead on electric poles.

Mr. Ekker told Council that the City is mapping residential natural gas services throughout town. Bailey Meyers has been hired for the summer to complete this project. Residential electric services will be mapped next.

## **B. Financial Report – Kim Palmer**

Ms. Palmer gave the financial report for April 2015. Councilmember Ogle asked why it appears the Fire Department has spent much less than the other departments. Ms. Palmer responded that it is because of the grant expense that is included in the budget. This expense is a placeholder in the event that grant funding is received. Councilmember Lyman questioned the airport expenses being over budget. Ms. Palmer responded that it was due to the unanticipated replacement of the runway reil lights and hangar lights.

## **5. AGENDA ITEMS**

### ***A. Play Unplugged Presentation - Tiffany Giddings/DeeAnn Hunt***

Tiffany Giddings and DeeAnn Hunt shared information about a program that they felt would be beneficial to the community. The Play Unplugged program encourages kids to get active during the summer months, as well as other times throughout the year. The idea is to get businesses to participate in offering activities for children to complete. After completing the activity, the business would provide a badge to that child. An example, provided was of a business that offered a badge for completing the construction of a paper airplane. What a business chose to do would be completely up to them and would not mean the business would have to provide the actual activity. A business may have a badge available for the completion of visiting the museum. Ms. Giddings told Council that they were not looking for funding, but rather support from the Council in getting the word out to the community. Councilmember Ogle asked if there was a target age. Ms. Giddings responded that there was no target age. However, a business may choose to provide activities for age groups. Ms. Hunt then commented that the activity could generate foot traffic into local businesses. Councilmember Johnson suggested flyers be hung at the Wellness Center and the ball park to help spread the news.

### ***B. Surplus Equipment Sale Approval - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd discussed the list of vehicles the City would like to surplus. It was determined that a suggested minimum bid of \$500 or best offer would be placed on the 1989 Chevrolet S-10 and the 1992 Ford pickup. The 1979 Chevrolet would be offered with a minimum bid of \$1,000. The Grasshopper riding lawn mowers would be offered at a minimum bid of \$1,500.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the surplus sale and minimum bids of the stated vehicles. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***C. BLM Environmental Assessment Comments - Recapture Canyon - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd explained that the BLM would be doing some tree thinning north of Blanding.

Councilmember Laws told Council that he had visited with the BLM about the projects and explained that the tree thinning will occur in phases. They will be doing lopping, chopping, and mechanical shredding. Each of these will take place during a different phase and location of the project.

Recapture Canyon is included in the area of the project, but there will be no cutting or shredding in the bottom of the canyon. Councilmember Lyman stated that in prior activities the BLM had run over mounds and ruins that stood in their way.

Councilmember Laws responded that in the past few years, BLM archeologists have been marking and combing the area for ruins. He has no opinion on the project, other than he is aware they are doing it.

Mr. Redd asked if there was a need for comment on their environmental assessment. It was determined there was no need to comment on the project as there is no impact to the City.

***D. Police Chief Agreement - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that the attached agreement for Police Chief Lloyd Watkins was something that the Council had agreed to provide back in August, when the position of Chief was offered, after some conditions had been met. Councilmember Laws commented that the document does not state the position that Chief Watkins will be holding. And the terminology of “their” and “him” is incorrect. He also questioned the Council’s role in the termination of the Chief.

Mr. Redd responded that he had conversations with City Attorney Kendall Laws and it was determined that the same body that hired the Chief would need to be the same body that could terminate him. This would require the approval of the Mayor and the majority of the Council. Councilmember Laws

commented that this makes the Council's hands tied if the Mayor did not support the dismissal. He suggested that this be reviewed again by the City attorney for clarification.

Councilmember Lyman questioned Section 3 Item C, regarding the buyout of retirement benefits. It states, "if the employee is terminated without cause before October 31, 2015, the City agrees to buy out the remaining retirement benefit to get the employee to 20 years of service with Utah State Retirement Systems". Mr. Redd responded that Chief Watkins will have 20 years of service at the end of October 2015. If he was let go, the City would only be obligated to buy out the period up to October 2015.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the Police Chief Agreement between the City and Lloyd Watkins. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion failed.**

Following the vote it was determined that Mr. Redd would review the agreement with City Attorney Kendall Laws for clarification and grammar, and that the contract would return at the next meeting.

**6. INFORMATION**

Mayor Balch reported that the handicapped signs just west of the skate park were missing and needed to be replaced.

**7. OPEN FORUM**

None

8. Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
MAY 12, 2015  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:	Calvin Balch
City Councilmembers:	Kelly Laws
	Robert Ogle
	David Johnson
City Manager:	Jeremy Redd
City Engineer:	Terry Ekker
City Clerk:	Lisa Rarick
Chief of Police:	Lloyd Watkins
Fire Chief:	Craig Stanley

Absent: Councilmember Joe B. Lyman, Councilmember Taylor Harrison

Community Members: Jared Hillhouse, Kendall Laws, Terri Laws, William Harrison, Logan Shumway, Mike Jensen.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Mayor Balch.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Laws moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the April 28, 2015 meeting. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**  
None

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Terry Ekker presented the April 2015 Gas Report***

Mr. Ekker reported that one ½ inch gas service was installed in April. There are almost 1,000 total residential services and approximately 70 larger services.

***B. Terry Ekker presented the April 2015 Water Report***

Mr. Ekker reported that annual precipitation for rain and snow is 77% of normal. Water is still running into the 3rd Reservoir and will continue to add approximately 50 acre feet before diverting the water back to the 4th Reservoir. That will provide enough water for irrigation. He also reported that 265 acre feet of the irrigation water purchased from the Blanding Irrigation Company has been diverted mostly into the 4th Reservoir with some ditch water going into the 3rd Reservoir.

Mayor Balch commented that the City had done an excellent job with the water storage facilities in a below normal water year.

***C. Chief Lloyd Watkins presented the April 2015 Police Report***

Chief Watkins included additional details in the current report and stated that the next report would break down the hours for each individual officer. He will try to streamline the reports. Councilmember Laws and Councilmember Johnson like the summary report.

Councilmember Laws and Councilmember Ogle appreciated receiving email updates that Chief Watkins has been providing.

***D. Chief Craig Stanley reported the April 2015 Fire Report***

Chief Stanley reported that the fire department had completed a lot of training in April and he was thankful for a quiet fire month.

He reported that he met with the Moab Fire Chief. There are plans to set up a 2 ½ day regional fire school which would include San Juan and Grand Counties.

The fire roster is currently full. Lots of people are willing to train to fight fires.

Chief Stanley reported he was able to purchase 12 complete sets of slightly used breathing equipment at a total cost of \$6,000. One new set cost between \$7,200 to \$7,500. He was very pleased to get this great deal for the fire department. Councilmember Laws asked if they have expiration dates to which Chief Stanley responded that new units have a 15 year life. The used ones he purchased still have at least 5 years before expiration. He is also in the process of obtaining a grant to purchase additional units.

***E. Jeremy reported the April 2015 Recreation Report***

Baseball and softball registrations are now complete and there are about 20 additional participants this year compared to last year. Therefore the revenue for these programs are slightly above last year's totals.

General maintenance on the parks has them looking good and the City is being very judicious with the water usage.

Flowers will be planted along Center Street and Main Street on Monday, May 18, 2015.

The pool has been filled and will be ready for use next week.

The new weight room equipment donated by the hospital is getting a lot of use.

**5. AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. Request for Quote - Vehicle Services - Jeremy Redd***

Since the City no longer has a full-time mechanic on staff it is necessary to find providers to service City vehicles. Mr. Redd asked for approval to send request for quote letters to the various providers in Blanding. It may be that not all eligible providers will be able to offer every service needed and therefore there may need to be more than one provider for the City. Councilmember Laws questioned if the full service option is only required once a year. Mr. Redd responded that there are other services that would occur throughout the year with a full service lubrication annually.

Councilmember Ogle asked if the individual services on the list were the manufacturer's specifications and how the timetable was determined. Mr. Redd reported that this is the same spec sheet that the State of Utah uses. He also reported that each employee with a city vehicle is now responsible to make sure their vehicle is properly serviced.

Advice and consent was given by the council to send out the request for quote for vehicle services to the local providers.

***B. UNHS Letter of Support - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd reported that UNHS is seeking a letter of support to build a new facility. Mayor Balch asked for specifics on what type of facility. William Harrison and Mike Jensen were present representing UNHS. Mr. Jensen informed the Mayor and council that the facility would be built to house dental and medical specialists offices. He stated there is no guarantee they will be moving forward with construction but need letters of support to assist in obtaining grant money. UNHS will also be putting money into the construction project if the grant is received. The old UNHS Clinic currently houses

Administration, IT, Billing, Audiologist, and Behavioural Health offices. The new building will be aimed at customer care only.

Mr. Jensen reported that the new facility would be substantial and they would build it south of the hospital without interfering with any areas where the hospital may want to expand in the future.

Advice and consent was given to submit a letter of support for a new facility for UNHS. Mayor Balch recommended specifying in the letter what type of facility the City is supporting.

***C. City Council Candidacy Flyer - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd presented a City Council candidacy flyer for 3 at large open seats up for election this fall. The filing dates have been condensed this year and will be from June 1 through June 8 with two of those dates being Saturday and Sunday. He would like approval to send the flyer with the next utility bills, advertise in the newspaper, and post on Facebook and the City website.

Advice and consent was given to use the flyer to advertise for the City Council seats.

**6. INFORMATION**

Mr. Redd reported that the budget work session will be Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 6:00 pm. Dinner and snacks will be provided for the Mayor and Council.

Councilmember Laws stated he had met with the engineers regarding the streets and roads project. He had concerns that he wanted to make sure would be addressed during the course of the project. He has been pleased with Jones and Demille, the engineering firm for the project. The cut off date for asphalt will be October 16 with the contract date going until November 16. There will be a \$1,500 per day penalty if they exceed the contract dates. No roads can be left open for the winter months and if it is below 50 degrees asphalt cannot be laid. Next Tuesday is the bid opening for the \$5 million project. Councilmember Johnson asked who oversees the Transportation District and was informed that County Administrator Kelly Pehrson and Jones and Demille are responsible for that oversight.

Mayor Balch thanked Councilmember Laws for serving as Mayor Pro Tempore for the last two meetings while he was out of town. He also reported he had visited Dry Wash and there is quite a large “puddle” in the bottom. It appears at least one piece of equipment has been working on the project. There is no water in Johnson Creek.

**7. OPEN FORUM**

None

8. **Councilmember Ogle moved to adjourn. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
APRIL 28, 2015  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor Pro-Tempore:	Kelly Laws
City Councilmembers:	Robert Ogle
	Taylor Harrison
	David Johnson
	Joe Lyman
City Manager:	Jeremy Redd
City Engineer:	Terry Ekker
Community Development Director:	Bret Hosler

Absent: Mayor Calvin Balch

Community Members: Kendall Laws, Emily Laws, Shelton Shumway, Katie Shumway, Terri Laws, Marshall Shumway, Lisa Carr, Kari Ormiston, Jared Hillhouse, Virgil Sickels.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Robert Ogle.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the April 14, 2015 meeting with the following changes; page 2 item 4A to include "Mayor Pro-Tempore asked if he would make sure it was still set. Mr. Ekker replied that he would." Item 4B include, "Chief Watkins replied that he would include the requested information." Page 5, end of paragraph include, "Council instructed Mr. Redd to research the cost and possibility of having an independent survey completed. Mr. Redd responded that he would and he would also include it in the budget."**

**Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Laws**

Those voting NAY

NONE

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**

Officer Jared Hillhouse introduced Virgil Sickels as the newest City police officer. Officer Sickels told the Council that he grew up in Escalante, Utah. He has several family members involved in law enforcement. He loves southern Utah and looks forward to being here in Blanding.

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Mr. Ekker presented the Project Status Report***

**SCADA and metering for the 12" Mountain Line Replacement Project**

Mr. Ekker reported that the preliminary plans for the 3rd reservoir are underway. The design on the Dry Wash SCADA station is also underway.

**Backup Power at the Water Treatment Plant**

Mr. Ekker reported that options for backup power have been evaluated for this project. The location for the backup generator is currently being finalized.

**Blanding Power Distribution Project**

Mr. Ekker reported that the project has been postponed, but will be picked up as soon as the streets project plans are finalized.

**East Side Trunk Line Project**

Mr. Ekker told Council that the project is entering the land/right of way acquisition phase. The funding for the project is in process and could be funded in late summer or early fall.

**2015 Streets Project**

Mr. Ekker stated that the project was advertised for bids. The bid opening is scheduled for May 14, 2015. A recommendation for the award is anticipated to be May 21, 2015. The project is being administered by the Transportation Special Service District so the bid will not come to the Council for award. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws asked when it was decided that the project would be handled through the District. Mr. Redd responded that it was decided at previous Transportation District board meetings that the District would seek funding from CIB, rather than each community. This would mean the award for the project would be to the District and not individually to Monticello and Blanding. The debt for the project is also not incurred by the City, but by the district.

### **Emery Telcom Fiber and Cable Project**

Mr. Ekker told Council that this is not a Blanding City project. However, the project will have a significant impact on blue stakes, roadcut permits and inspections, and plan review. There will also be extra work to ensure adherence to Blanding City Power standards and the National Electrical Code.

### **B. Financial Report – Jeremy Redd**

Mr. Redd shared that 75% of the year is complete and the City is right where it should be at this time. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws asked about the deficit in the water fund. Mr. Redd responded that the deficit is due to projects and the timing on the funding for those projects. When depreciation is added back net income is positive.

### **C. San Juan County Chamber of Commerce Update - Bayley Hedglin**

Mr. Redd told the Council that Bayley was unable to attend. The item will be moved to a later meeting.

## **5. AGENDA ITEMS**

### ***A. Community Center Land Donation Proposal - SJ Foundation - Robert Ogle***

Councilmember Ogle reminded Council of the Community Center project that has been shared with the Council before. The proposed location for the project is on the site where the old swimming pool was located on land currently owned by the City. He informed the Council that a Blanding Community Association has been established and is now overseeing the project. There are seven members on that committee. Members include Lisa Carr, Kari Ormiston, Robert Ogle, Alisa Moore, Larry Richmond, and others. As a temporary facility the committee is considering the old RUCD building located on 500 South to establish the program and demonstrate the long term value to the community. Councilmember Ogle also stated that the San Juan Foundation is supporting the idea.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws commented that from the notes provided it appears that the San Juan Foundation has requested that the City be approached for a 5 year transfer of conditional ownership of the land. Councilmember Ogle responded that it was the purpose tonight to just give an update of the project. There was no intention to approach the City for anything at this time.

Councilmember Lyman commented that by conditionally giving the land to the project would allow it to be used as leverage to request additional funds. Without the land they have no leverage. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws then stated that we would be derelict in our duties to allow City land as leverage for a project without an agreement. Is the City obligated to this project and providing the land? He then asked if the School District is involved in the project. There have been several comments regarding the center as a place where educational resources are provided. If that is the case the School District should be involved in the project. Councilmember Ogle then responded that the School District had not been approached yet.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws then stated that giving up the land for the project would ultimately make the



land unusable by the City. The land would be lost for any other projects or needs the City might have for it. It is important to ensure that whatever goes on that piece of property is viable and stable for several years.

Councilmember Lyman recommended that conditions be pursued that address concerns mentioned by Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws. He also suggested that the School District be approached because education seems to be a large part of the project.

Mr. Redd asked if Council would like some preliminary work on what stipulations the City may want on a possible deed. It was determined that the City will wait to see what the School District may do before developing any conditions. It was also determined that a document stating the LDS Church's approval to use their parking lot for the facility would also be needed, prior to the City setting conditions.

***B. Farmers Market Agreement Renewal/Changes - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that it was time to renew the Farmers Market Agreement. Shelton Shumway will be overseeing the market this year. Mr. Shumway stated that the market would like to open earlier and cater to tourists visiting the area. They would like to start the market in April and be open from 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. The products offered at the market will be similar to past years.

Mr. Shumway read the rules of the market that are distributed to those that are selling at the market. Local products must be from San Juan County or labeled to where it is from. No yard sale products or refurbished items will be sold at the market. It was also suggested that the length of time be extended to allow for clean up. Mr. Shumway also mentioned that Harold Lyman, Visitor Center Manager, has requested the market open as soon as possible and stay as late as possible.

Councilmember Lyman also asked if there was a need to review the Farmers Market guidelines each year to ensure they are consistent with what the City expects from the activity. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws stated that it has worked well for the past twelve years and he doesn't see a need to review them.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the Farmers Market Agreement. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Lyman**

Those voting NAY

Councilmember Laws

NONE

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws declared the motion carried.**

***C. Department Presentations - Electric - Jeremy Redd/Jackie Coombs - UAMPS***

Mr. Redd introduced Jackie Coombs from UAMPS who is participating in the Electric department presentation. Ms. Coombs shared that there are 44 members in UAMPS over 8 states. UAMPS is a non-profit entity. Mr. Redd is the Blanding City representative to the UAMPS board. UAMPS pays Mr. Redd a per diem to attend the meetings. Mr. Redd then stated that when those funds come they are deposited to the City. Ms. Coombs continued to tell the Council that Mr. Redd sits on each of the 8 project boards that the City of Blanding is a part of. There are many changes occurring in the electric industry with new EPA regulations. Carbon dioxide emissions must be reduced by 30% in the state of Utah, beginning with 2005. To meet the goal of reducing these emissions, it is estimated that there will be no coal powered power plants in the state of Utah by 2023.

Ms. Coombs told Council that alternative forms of generating power are currently being considered and developed. These forms include, nuclear, wind, water and other. There is currently a nuclear reactor site being developed in Idaho. Mr. Redd stated that the City will need to determine what percentage they would like to participate in the development of the nuclear reactor during an upcoming Council meeting. Ms. Coombs also discussed the design of the nuclear plant. NuScale will be building the facility. She then shared that the San Juan power plant is struggling and not producing as well as it has in the past. There are several maintenance issues with the aging plant.

Mr. Redd reported that there are always changes occurring with power, especially with the San Juan coal plant project. He then shared statistics regarding the power company. The cost of power has stayed relatively low and consistent over the past six years. In comparison to other power providers the cost to Blanding City residents and businesses is less. The biggest challenge facing the company will be securing power at a reasonable cost, with the reduction of coal powered plants. The maintenance contract with Rocky Mountain power will need to be renewed in the next 18 months. There is also a need to update the City's power infrastructure, including, two planned \$400,000 projects over the next two years to replace infrastructure and upgrade the substation to a 12kV system.

Mr. Redd then told Council that the electric company currently has no debt.

Mr. Redd also complimented Patrick Parsons for the job he is doing with the power company. With Jeff Black's retirement, Mr. Parsons has assumed many of those power responsibilities and has done a great job learning the system and its needs.

***D. Department Presentations - Streets - Jeremy Redd/Terry Ekker***

Mr. Ekker presented the Streets department presentation. He shared information he had received from Jones and Demille Engineering regarding the upcoming 2015 streets project. The City will receive \$2.5 million through the Transportation Service District's CIB funding for the project. A map of the locations that will be affected by the project will be distributed to Council so they can answer any questions they may receive from City residents. Mr. Ekker continued to give details regarding the streets that will be repaired by the project. He also stated that the priorities of the project will be to repair curb and gutters where needed, reconstruct problem streets, fix localized problem areas and repair pedestrian/sidewalk access where needed.

Councilmember Ogle asked if there would be any chip sealing occurring. Mr. Ekker responded that chip seal will not be apart of this project, but will occur later using money from savings. Mr. Redd stated that the City is striving to notify those residents that might be affected by the project, and to help reduce the impact to them.

Mr. Ekker reminded the Council that streets are funded from several different sources including Class C Road Funds, the San Juan County Transportation Special Service District, CIB, Loans/Bonds, and grants. He continued to discuss maintenance that takes place to extend the life of the streets. Crack sealing, patching, chip sealing, HA5 high density mineral bond, and overlay.

As the City moves forward it will continue to maintain existing streets, complete curb and gutter, replace sidewalks and install new ones where needed, pave unpaved streets, and improve drainage.

Councilmember Lyman asked about the street near Tri-Hurst Construction and if that road was on the list to be repaired. Mr. Ekker responded that the location presents some real design issues. It has been discussed, but because of the cost associated with it, it won't be completed with this project.

Councilmember Johnson asked about the road in front of the Fire Department and the water issue there. Mr. Ekker responded that there are some ground water issues there. The 2015 project funds will be used to repair issues around that area.

6. **INFORMATION**

None

7. **OPEN FORUM**

None

8. **Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote.**

**Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
APRIL 14, 2015  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor Pro-Tempore:	Kelly Laws
City Councilmembers:	David Johnson
	Robert Ogle
	Taylor Harrison
	Joe Lyman
City Administrator:	Jeremy Redd
Finance Director:	Kim Palmer
City Engineer:	Terry Ekker
Community Development Director:	Bret Hosler
City Police Chief:	Lloyd Watkins

Absent: Mayor Calvin Balch

Community Members: Kendall Laws, Emily Laws, Kara Laws, Staff Sergeant Steven Burt.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Kelly Laws.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the March 24, 2015 meeting. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Laws**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**

***A. National Guard Cleanup Proposal - Staff Sergeant Burt***

Sergeant Burt told Council that the local National Guard unit currently has 32 members, with 16 members from the immediate Blanding area. The unit has participated in several different community events over the past year including, parades, funerals, Veterans Day and Memorial Day events. Most recently the unit participated in the STEAM Expo held on the USU campus. Sergeant Burt offered the services of the National Guard unit during a City cleanup this year and Council graciously accepted. The date of the cleanup will be September 19th. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws expressed the City's appreciation for the service the guard continues to give to the community.

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Terry Ekker presented the March 2015 Gas and Water Report***

Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws asked how much water had been received from the irrigation company. Mr. Ekker responded that approximately 156 acre feet which equates to roughly \$3,900. Mr. Ekker continued to report that the ditch had quit flowing and the 3rd reservoir would not receive as much as was previously hoped. There may also be a need to pump the wells, as the 4th reservoir will probably not fully fill as previously predicted.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws then asked how much water was coming off the other side of the mountain. Mr. Ekker responded that it had been set to come this way last fall, and he assumed it was still set. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws asked if Mr. Ekker would make sure the it was still set to flow to this side of the mountain. Mr. Ekker responded that he would. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws then asked how the new pipeline was flowing. Mr. Ekker responded that the contractor has been contacted to come fix a problem on the line that is causing some restriction of the flow.

***B. Chief Lloyd Watkins presented the March 2015 Police Report.***

Chief Watkins told Council that total offenses were down for the month. He and Mr. Redd are still working to get statistical information on the website. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws asked if the report could be changed to show the statistics for each officer, rather than just total amounts. He stated that the information is helpful when approached by community members who may have concerns regarding individual officers. Chief Watkins responded that he would make those requested changes to his report.

***C. Jeremy Redd presented the March 2015 Fire Report.***

Mr. Redd reported that Chief Craig Stanley is recovering from his recent ACL surgery. He shared information from the Fire report. The department had few call outs in March but was busy training.

***D. Jeremy Redd presented the March 2015 Recreation Report.***

Mr. Redd shared information from the recreation report included in the packet. Registrations for youth baseball, softball, teeball and coach pitch are underway, with teams being put together in the next week. The City parks are being fertilized and sprinklers are being set. Councilmember Lyman expressed his hope that sprinklers are being set at a reasonable time schedule. Mr. Redd responded that he felt the sprinklers were being set at a very conservative rate. He also stated that a water conservation letter would be distributed to residents, reminding them to monitor their water use and conserve this precious resource. Councilmember Ogle asked about the status of men's recreation programs. Councilmember Harrison responded that men's basketball was canceled due to issues with the program the year before. Men's fast pitch softball is held in Monticello and Blanding offers a co-ed softball league.

**5. PUBLIC HEARING - *PROPOSED CHANGE TO LAND SURVEY ORDINANCE 11-4-4 ALLOWING FOR THE USE OF ALUMINUM SURVEY MARKERS***

Councilmember Lyman moved to enter a public hearing regarding a *Proposed Change to Land Survey Ordinance 11-4-4 Allowing For The Use of Aluminum Survey Markers*. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Laws**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws declared the motion carried.**

There were no public comments.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to leave the public hearing and return to regular session, Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Laws**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws declared the motion carried.**

**6. PUBLIC BUDGET REQUESTS**

Kara Laws addressed the Council representing the BKE scholarship. She spoke about the current status of the scholarship. She informed the Council that currently each scholarship recipient receives \$500. Currently there are approximately enough funds to provide scholarships for the next 4 years. The scholarship oversight committee would like to see the scholarship dollars grow so that the amount of scholarships and the number of recipients could also increase. If the scholarship could raise \$10,000, an outside investor could invest the money and the scholarship could grow and be available for years to come. Ms. Laws then asked if the City would be willing to assist the scholarship in reaching its goal of raising \$10,000. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws expressed his support for the scholarship, but questioned Ms. Laws about the structure of the scholarship bylaws. Ms. Laws responded that bylaws are currently being discussed and would need to be developed and established to ensure that funds will continue to be available. Her goal was to set the principle at \$10,000 and provide scholarship from the interest and growth of that money. The principle would never be touched. As the money grows the amount of principle would also increase. Currently scholarship funds are being held in a savings account with a local bank.

Councilmember Lyman stated he would like to see those that support the scholarship donate, but would not oppose a City donation. Each of those for whom the scholarship is named, served on the City Council at one time, two of them at the time of their deaths. However, he would also like to see more structure to the scholarship and its bylaws. Ms. Laws also told Council that there are several fundraisers scheduled to help raise the money and there is a way for individuals to donate to the scholarship online. Councilmember Harrison also stated he would encourage more structure to the bylaws. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws encouraged Ms. Laws to get the scholarships rules and bylaws in place and then come back to the Council and share them. Mr. Redd stated he will work with Ms. Laws to get information together to be presented at the budget meeting to be held next month.



## 7. **AGENDA ITEMS**

### ***A. Department Presentations – Sewer - Terry Ekker***

Mr. Redd discussed the financial situation of the Sewer company. The company currently has 1,179 customers and \$332,413 in yearly budgeted expenses. Currently the monthly user fee is \$21.50 which is below the maximum affordable rate of between \$29.37 and \$51.27. He continued to tell Council that it is becoming increasingly difficult to get grant funding for the sewer company because of its strong financial status and the demographics of the last Census used in determining the City's need. The company's savings are high, utility rates are low and there is low debt. This has been an issue in getting grant funding from USDA for the East Side Sewer Project. Currently the most optimistic option for funding for the project would be 45% grant funding and 55% loan. Other options include approaching the Community Impact Board for a loan at 1.5%. Mr. Redd told Council that another option would be to conduct an independent survey of the community that would show a more accurate representation of average household income. The City has exercised that option in the past. The survey would be somewhat expensive but savings could be used to pay for it. When it was done previously it more than paid for itself in additional grant funding, and placed the City in a more favorable and accurate position. Council instructed Mr. Redd to research the costs and the possibility of doing any independent survey. Mr. Redd responded that he would and he would also include figures in the budget.

Mr Ekker shared with the Council the goals associated with the sewer company. These goals included: maintaining current infrastructure, upgrading and repairing lines in conjunction with street projects, cleaning main lines bi-annually, providing service at a reasonable rate, constructing the East Side Sewer trunk line, developing a sanitary sewer management plan, and updating the sewer master plan.

### ***B. Department Presentations – Stormwater - Terry Ekker***

Mr. Redd informed Council that \$32,316 is generated from storm water fees each year. There are \$7,093 in expenses and \$18,438 in loan repayment. This leaves \$6,785 each year for needed projects.

Mr. Ekker discussed the capital improvement plan, stating that there are \$710,800 in existing stormwater needs and \$766,300 in future needs. He also stated that because the utility generates little revenue completing these projects will be very difficult. If Blanding is ever included in the UPDES, stormwater management costs will increase significantly.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws asked if it would be possible to combine the stormwater and sewer utilities and if merging those two would help with acquiring funding for projects in both utilities. Mr. Redd reminded Council that the utility was created so that a loan could be received for a previous stormwater project. Mr. Redd stated he would do some research about the pros and cons of merging the two utilities and other possible options to address the funding shortfall.

### ***C. Mutual Aid Agreement - Terry Ekker***

Mr. Ekker briefly discussed the Mutual Aid Agreement with Council. The purpose of the agreement is to streamline reimbursement from FEMA in the event of a natural disaster.

**Councilmember Johnson moved to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Laws**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws declared the motion carried.**

***D. Hazard Mitigation Policy - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that this is a cleaned up version of the policy that was reviewed in Council during past meetings.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the Hazard Mitigation Policy, Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Laws**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws declared the motion carried.**

***E. Legal Services Contract - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd informed Council that City Attorney Kendall Laws' contract for legal services will expire on June 30th. He expressed that he has been very happy with the services that Mr. Laws has provided

and requested the contract be renewed for an additional two year term. There are no proposed changes to the contract. Chief Watkins also spoke in support of renewing the contract.

**Councilmember Harrison moved to approve the renewal of the Contract for Legal Services with Kendall Laws, Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws repeated the motion and asked for discussion.**

Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws declared a conflict of interest in the item because Kendall Laws is his son.

**Following this disclosure, Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Laws**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws declared the motion carried.**

***F. Ordinance 2015-1 - Land Survey Ordinance Change - Joe Lyman***

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve , Ordinance 2015-1 - Land Survey Ordinance Change. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Laws**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws declared the motion carried.**

**8. INFORMATION**

Councilmember Harrison requested that County Commissioner Phil Lyman's response to a letter received by the City from State BLM Director Juan Palma be included in the minutes.

*My email response to the Blanding City Council in regard to the letter they received from State BLM Director Juan Palma:*

*March 16, 2015*

*To Mayor Balch, Jeremy Redd, and the Blanding City Council,*

*I am sending you this reply just so it is in the record:*

*The City Council was fully within their right and duty to issue the resolution. It was the City of Blanding that started the process of applying for a right-of-way in Recapture. It is the City of Blanding that was most damaged by its closure. And it is the City of Blanding that has been wrongly maligned by outside interests using the BLM as their weapon of choice against honest people in our community.*

*The first requirement for the 2007 closure to be valid is that it be done according to existing rules at the time. It is important to note that differences do make a difference. In 2007, and according to the closure order which BLM claims is still valid, "the areas and routes outside of the closure area remain "open" to all types of recreational use, including motorized, in accordance with the (1991) RMP."*

*BLM was notified in 2009 that their closure order must be updated. I notified them myself in 2011 and asked how the closure order could be valid even though the 2008 RMP had been implemented, and their own rules said that they "must" update the plan in order for it to remain in effect. These same rules define a "considerable adverse effect." This term is not simply a field manager's opinion, but has certain criterion which specifically excluded damage caused by long-term OHV use. That type of damage can be mitigated before a closure is implemented, according to the BLM's rules.*

*The term illegal trail has been used repeatedly by the BLM and the special interest groups, as if repetition will somehow make it a reality. This is what should bring local citizens to the aid of their falsely accused brothers. If the BLM wanted to close the trail in Recapture, they had the power to do so, but instead they performed a temporary closure and then proceeded to criminalize two individuals. More than likely the BLM took this route to justify the other travesty of the illegal raids of 2009. To read through the discovery document of that earlier case is like watching a train wreck in slow motion. The BLM needed to make a statement and. it sickens me to see how they intentionally mislead two upstanding people, threatened them, promised them, then prosecuted them.*

*Now, back to the closure order. It states that it is the decision of the Acting Field Manager "to close portions of Recapture Canyon area, as depicted on the adjacent map, to motorized recreational use, including OHV use." It goes on to say, that "the routes depicted in the closed section of the adjacent map are now officially "closed" to motorized recreational use, except for permitted and/or administrative use." Permitted means that a person has a permit, or has permission. The events of May 10th were not done by a band of recreational ATVers but by a County Commissioner acting in his official capacity on a permitted county road in a publicly announced official protest. As a board of commissioners, we have authority over the Water Conservancy District, their right of way is the County's right of way, and the actions of an official protest are an administrative use which the County ratified with their own*

*resolution. The ironic part of all this is that it is not the closure that we are protesting but the capricious actions of an unaccountable federal agency willing to lie and then to criminalize people of good will for no other reason than to bully and intimidate an entire community.*

*Thank you for the good work that you do for our city and our community!*

*Phil Lyman*

9. **OPEN FORUM**

No Comments

10. **Councilmember Johnson moved to enter a closed session. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Laws**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Pro Tempore Laws declared the motion carried.**

Council entered the closed session at 8:30 p.m.

11. **Councilmember Harrison moved to leave the closed session. Councilmember Lyman seconded the motion. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Laws**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Pro Tempore Laws declared the motion carried.**

Council returned to regular session at 9:30 p.m.

12. **Councilmember Ogle moved to adjourn. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Pro-Tempore Laws repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Laws**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Pro Tempore Laws declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
MARCH 24, 2015  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:	Calvin Balch
City Councilmembers:	Kelly Laws
	David Johnson
	Joe B Lyman
	Robert Ogle
	Taylor Harrison
City Administrator:	Jeremy Redd
Finance Director:	Kim Palmer
City Engineer:	Terry Ekker
Community Development Director:	Bret Hosler
Police Chief:	Lloyd Watkins

Community Members: Terri Laws, Kendall Laws, Todd Thorne, Kathy Hurst, Asa Bradford, David Lyman, Patrick Parsons.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Joe Lyman.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Ogle moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the February 24, 2015 meeting, Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**

***A. Southeastern Utah Association of Governments - Todd Thorne***

Todd Thorne from the Southeastern Utah Association of Governments (SEUAG) introduced himself and shared information regarding the programs he oversees at the SEUAG. Those programs include, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the revolving loan fund. He encouraged the City to use the CDBG for community projects. Mr. Redd stated that the City has used the CDBG grant for many projects, the most recent being the Jelly Sewer project completed last summer. Mr. Thorne continued to tell Council that the Revolving Loan program helps assist businesses when there is a gap in their attempt to get a loan. Councilmember Lyman asked how well those loans have been repaid. Mr. Thorne replied that the loans have a very successful track record of repayment. Businesses that access the loan program work with the local Small Business Development Center, a business plan is developed, and other requirements to help secure the loan are completed. Councilmember Harrison asked if the loan can help fund a down payment that may be required by a bank. Mr. Thorne responded that the idea behind the loan program is to help leverage other funds.

***B. SJH National Honor Society - Community Easter Egg Hunt - Asa Bradford***

Asa Bradford from the San Juan High School National Honor Society approached the Council requesting funds for the community Easter egg hunt. The National Honor Society oversees and coordinates that yearly event for the community. He shared that last year 150 - 200 children participated in the activity. Councilmember Laws stated that the amount has been \$300 for as long as he could remember and he would like to see that amount increased to \$450. Council gave advice and consent to donate \$450 to the community Easter egg hunt.

***C. USU Eastern STEAM Event - Edward Larson***

Edward Larson discussed the upcoming STEAM event to be held at the college in April. He stated that the event is targeted to the whole community, and is not necessarily a recruiting tool for the college. STEAM is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math. The event will have several hands on activities that will be of interest to not only children, but adults also. It is estimated that 1,500 school children will attend the event. Councilmember Ogle commented that he was impressed by the activity when he attended last year with middle school age children. Mr. Redd told Council that the City is helping publicize the event by posting information on their FaceBook page and by including a flyer with the utility bills next week.

**5. REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Mr. Ekker presented the February 2015 Gas and Water Report***

Mr. Ekker reported there were no new services installed in February. Natural Gas usage is down due to the warmer temperatures.

Mr. Ekker asked Councilmember Laws to share information from the Irrigation Company meeting held last week. Councilmember Laws reminded Council that the City is a 27% share holder in the irrigation



company. Recapture Reservoir is currently 800 acre feet below the conservation level, due to drought and the sale of water to the Mill last year. The water was sold to the Mill to enable it to keep running. The first 800 acre feet of water that flows in to Recapture belongs to the conservation pool, making it unavailable to the City or to farmers for irrigation. The irrigation company has \$46,000 in loan payments due each year that must be paid from shareholder assessments. Because of the drought, shareholders have received no irrigation water in three years, but have to continue to pay their assessments.

After meeting with Mr. Redd and Mr. Ekker, Councilmember Laws proposed to the irrigation company a way to reduce the assessments to each shareholder and bring the water into the City for use by residents. The proposal was for the City to purchase up to 750 acre feet at \$25 per acre foot delivered. This would fill City reservoirs and reduce the assessment cost to each irrigation company shareholder. The proposal benefits both the residents of the City and farming families. The City would not have to pump the deep wells for water, thus reducing that cost to almost nothing, and the farmers would see a reduction in their water assessment.

Councilmember Lyman asked what would happen to the water if next year was a normal or better than a normal year for precipitation. Councilmember Laws replied that if the City reservoirs were full the water would go to Recapture. The question was then asked what would happen if we suddenly receive a substantial amount of water that would fill the reservoirs to a decent level. Councilmember Laws replied that if that happens the deal would be off. The City will also reimburse the Irrigation Company for the water master for the time period he will work during the spring runoff. Councilmember Harrison clarified what had been presented by saying that if the City does not purchase the water it would just go into the conservation pool where it would not benefit anyone.

Councilmember Laws replied that was correct. Councilmember Laws concluded by saying that he hopes everyone realizes that as the reservoirs start rising we should realize the blessing, but that this blessing also assists 15-20 families that are in need of help after three years of drought. Their support of this proposal benefits the City and the residents.

***B. Police Chief Watkins presented the February 2015 Police Report.***

Chief Watkins reported that he and Mr. Redd were working on posting the monthly statistics to the City web page, making it available to residents. Total offenses are down from last year.

***D. Jeremy Redd presented the February 2015 Fire Report.***

Mr. Redd told Council that Chief Stanley was unable to attend the meeting. He then shared that February had been a busy month for call outs, with nine in all. The department had four nights of training.

***E. Jeremy Redd presented the February 2015 Recreation Report.***

Mr. Redd reported that registrations have begun for baseball, softball, t-ball and machine pitch. It is now possible for those registrations to be done both online and at the Wellness Center. Youth volleyball is currently taking place. The water has been turned on and the parks crew is off and running preparing the parks and fields for the summer season.

***F. Terry Ekker presented the March Project Status Report.***

**SCADA and Metering for the 12" Mountain Line Replacement Project**

Mr. Ekker reported that a review of preliminary plans for the 3rd Reservoir metering station is currently underway. Design on the Dry Wash metering station is moving forward.

**Backup Power at Water Treatment Plant**

Mr. Ekker told Council that options are being evaluated for this project. Final design and bid work has been postponed for one month due to the electrical engineer being out of the country.

**Blanding Power Distribution Project**

Mr. Ekker reported that the project has been postponed while other projects such as the streets project take precedence. However, options on re-bidding this project are being considered.

**East Side Sewer Trunk Line**

Mr. Ekker reported that the land/right of way acquisition phase of the project and project funding phase is currently taking place. The project funding is in the process and could be funded in the late summer or early fall. Mr. Redd reported that the preliminary proposal has been submitted to USDA for review. If the preliminary review comes back positive the full proposal will be completed with the environmental assessment, which will be extensive.

**2015 Streets Project**

Mr. Ekker reported that the project design is currently at 60%. The project has been bumped to the top of the priority list. It is believed that there will be substantial cost savings by bidding this project and constructing it in 2015 because of the recent decline in fuel prices. The project is funded by the CIB and will be administered by the San Juan County Transportation Special Service District. It is scheduled to be bid in May 2015.

***G. Kim Palmer presented the February Financial Status Report***

Ms. Palmer reported that all City accounts are within budget.

**6. AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. Department Presentations - Water - Terry Ekker***

Mr. Redd told Council that there is no plan for a rate increase at this time. The increase made last year enabled the City to pump wells and have enough water to help avoid restrictions. Mr. Redd continued to tell the Council that the expenses for the water company were \$886,633 compared to last year's total of \$828,112. This difference can be attributed to pumping the wells and repairs made to the wells. The average monthly water bill in Blanding is \$42.43.

Mr. Ekker told the Council that the current water storage is 1495 acre feet, which is 180 acre feet more than this time last year. The purchase of water from the Irrigation Company will possibly bring in another 750 acre feet. The water in the mountain pipeline will go to the 4th reservoir and the water in the upper ditch will go to the 3rd reservoir. When those are full, the water will go into the Starvation reservoir.

Mr. Ekker also told Council that the crew has been working on the new 12" line, and right now water is not flowing at a steady rate. David Lyman, the City Water Operator, stated that he feels the problem is an airlock issue, and the City will keep working to resolve the problem.

Mr. Ekker also told Council that since the water line flushing that occurred in November, no customer complaints regarding water quality have been received by the City office. The City will continue with an annual flushing program to prevent and help remove the buildup of residue and tuberculation in the lines.

***B. Department Presentations - Natural Gas - Terry Ekker***

Mr. Redd reported that there are currently 1129 customers on the natural gas system. He stated that the price of natural gas is at a 13 year low. The City is locked into a 5 year price lock, which ends on October 31, 2016. The City is reviewing options of what direction to take when that price lock is complete.

The outstanding loan on the natural gas company will be paid off in 2020.

Mr. Ekker shared that the City has the ability to integrate Natural gas pressure and flow readings from the border pressure regulation station into the water SCADA system. The costs to complete the

integration are currently being gathered for budgetary evaluation.

***C. Proposed Ordinance Change - Allow Aluminum Survey Markers - Joe Lyman***

Councilmember Lyman proposed that the City change the ordinance regarding survey markers to allow for the use of less expensive aluminum rather than only brass markers. Mr. Hosler commented that there is no state requirement to use brass. The cost of brass is \$30 per marker, while the cost of aluminum is \$2.50. Council gave advice and consent to send the proposed change to a public hearing.

***D. Mutual Aid Agreement - Terry Ekker***

This agenda item was tabled for a later meeting

***E. CNHA Visitor Center Agreement Renewal - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that the two-year agreement with Canyonlands Natural History Association (CNHA) had expired and a new signed agreement was now needed. There were no changes to the agreement. CNHA provides materials for the Visitor Center.

**Councilmember Lyman moved to approve the agreement for two years with Canyonlands Natural History Association, Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

***F. Budget Work Session - Move to May 19th - Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd stated the scheduled work session for May would need to be rescheduled for May 19th rather than May 14th.

***G. BLM Response Letter - Joe Lyman***

Councilmember Lyman told the Council that he had written a response to the letter that was recently received from the BLM regarding the Recapture Canyon resolution passed by the Council. He had no intention of sending it, but wanted it included in the minutes as public record.

8. **INFORMATION**

NONE

9. **OPEN FORUM**

A. There were no comments from the public

10. **Councilmember Lyman moved to adjourn. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
FEBRUARY 10, 2015  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:	Calvin Balch
City Councilmembers:	David Johnson
	Robert Ogle
	Taylor Harrison
	Joe Lyman
City Administrator:	Jeremy Redd
Finance Director:	Kim Palmer
General Services Manager:	Jeff Black
Community Development Director:	Bret Hosler
City Police Chief:	Lloyd Watkins
Recreation Director:	David Palmer

Absent: Councilmember Kelly Laws

Community Members: Roma Young, John Patterson, Wayne Johnson, Kathy Hurst, Danny Fleming, Harold Lyman.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Jeremy Redd.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Ogle moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the January 27, 2015 meeting. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Johnson**

**Those voting NAY**

**Those Abstaining**

**NONE**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Mayor Balch asked about two entries on the financial disbursement, the first was in regards to an item with the Zions Bankcard that had been misclassified. Mrs. Palmer responded that would be corrected. The second was regarding the purchase made at Pitney Bowes, which the description was for rental instead of postage. That also would be corrected.

3. **OPEN FORUM**

Danny Fleming expressed appreciation for the support he has had from the Council over the past 32 years. He will be retiring at the end of the month.

John Patterson expressed his concern over the new process required for those living outside City limits to connect to City power services. The new process requires approval from the state Public Service Commission and Rocky Mountain Power. The Commission will must approve the connection outside of city limits. The process can take up to 120 days, and most residents are not aware of the new legislation that requires this policy. Mr. Redd explained Senate Bill 88 is being pushed through the legislature. The bill would reduce the time the Public Service Commission has to approve the request from 120 days to 20 days. At the end of the 20 day period, requests will be automatically approved if no action has been taken.

Wayne Johnson made the statement that the Public Service Commission needs to be held accountable for the affect they are having on citizens. He then asked if it would be possible to provide a temporary connection to the City until the request has been answered. Mr. Redd responded that at this point the law does not allow for a temporary connection before approval from the Commission. He expressed his understanding of the issues this has caused and said he will work towards supporting the proposed bill and anything else that will help improve the service for customers.

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Terry Ekker presented the January 2015 Gas and Water Report***

Mr. Ekker reported that natural gas use is less than last year due to the higher temperatures.

Mr. Ekker reported that participation is at 70% of average. Levels on the mountain are dropping due to the unseasonably warm weather. Area reservoirs are just above last year limits.

***B. Chief Lloyd Watkins presented the January 2015 Police Report.***

Chief Watkins reported that assault and burglary numbers are down. However intoxication and family fights have increased. He also shared that incidents overall are down 10% from last year's numbers.

***C. Jeremy Redd presented the January 2015 Fire Report.***

Mr. Redd reported that Chief Craig Stanley has a torn ACL and will be having surgery. He shared information from the report. The department had 15 incidents during the month. Several firefighters had attended the Winter Fire School in St. George, which they felt was very beneficial.

***D. David Palmer presented the January 2015 Recreation Report.***

Mr. Palmer reported that girls' volleyball and boys' basketball had started. Memberships and revenues remain stable. Mayor Balch asked for an explanation to the comment at the bottom of the packet report. Mr. Palmer responded that due to the memberships provided by the college the center is busy in the late afternoons and evenings. It is difficult to serve everyone with the increase. Many times the students use the center as a hang out place and tie up equipment that could be used by paying members. It's difficult to accommodate the increase in numbers. He continued to state that he has met with security staff and requested they monitor more closely to ensure equipment is available for use by those wanting to use it, rather than those wanting to just loiter or hang out. Councilmember Harrison asked about the activity during the morning hours. Mr. Palmer responded that morning hours are busy with individuals getting a workout in before they go to work. Mr. Ogle asked if the center would lose the college memberships when the college completes their facility. Mr. Redd responded that the college is now just in the fundraising stage of their project.

5. **AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. Department Presentations – Process Overview – Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told council that the goal of the department presentation was to ensure that each department was headed in the direction the Council would like to see. Each department will give a 10 minute presentation, followed by answering any questions the Council had for them. He then reminded Council that the City operates off two different fund types. The general fund and the enterprise funds. General Funds are tax based. Enterprise funds are those that are generated through the six-separate companies owned by the City.

***B. Department Presentations – Visitor Center– Harold Lyman/Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Lyman shared that the Visitor Center was opened 13 years ago in March. Lynne Shumway and Harold have been there for the full thirteen years.

The center operates with a three-point mission statement. The statement includes goals of providing the best service possible, supporting the Blanding business community, and generating maximum income to replace general fund allocation funds.

He continued to tell Council that the Center receives very positive comments from visitors and has received a 96% rating in Customer Service from Tripadvisor.



Visitation at the Visitor Center is up 18.2% from last year. Sales are up 3.3%. \$3,291.00 in donations were received.

Mr. Redd told Council that the total Visitor Center Budget is \$110,624. The city subsidizes the Visitor Center in the amount of \$12,143.

***C. Department Presentations – Parks & Recreation/Wellness Center– David Palmer***

Mr. Palmer told Council that there are more opportunities than ever before to recreate in Blanding. Recreation opportunities for youth and adults.

The landscaping of the parks has been contracted to Lawn Max.

Recreation goals include; regular upkeep of equipment, facilities, and parks, providing youth sports where an atmosphere and pricing allows all kids to play and develop skills, and adult sports opportunities. He reminded Council that adult sports must fully compensate the City for play. The City will provide the facility for the activity.

The Wellness Center has been open for 4 years. Numbers in both membership and revenue are leveling out after a honeymoon period.

Mr. Palmer shared ideas for improvement at the Wellness Center including; guest passes, better software to track and monitor memberships, upgrade, replacement and new equipment to meet demands, new classes and programs. He has recently been researching the benefits of leasing equipment rather than buying outright. The costs appear to be comparable. Councilmember Johnson asked what the replacement time frame was on leased equipment. Mr. Palmer responded that leased equipment would be repaired or replaced as needed. Lease companies appear to be much more aggressive than the City could afford to be in replacing equipment.

Total Wellness Center revenues for 2014 was \$357,855 from the following sources: \$175,000 in membership revenue, \$132,437 in sales tax revenue, and \$50,000 from San Juan County.

Councilmember Lyman asked about the maintenance on the solar panels at the Wellness Center. Mr. Palmer responded that no maintenance had taken place. Councilmember Johnson asked if the rays on the panels had been checked. Mr. Palmer responded that he has not checked anything on the panels. Mr. Redd stated that there is a system installed that allows for the output of the panels to be monitored.

Future Projects include; replacing the sand in the playgrounds, additional gyms at the Wellness Center, an indoor pool, a permanent shade at the ball fields, lighting for the ball fields and a city street to the Wellness Center parking lot (extending 200 west).

***D. Department Presentations – Planning & Zoning/Airport – Bret Hosler***

Mr. Hosler presented information regarding improvements made at the airport. Those improvements include new lights in the big hangar, replacement of riel lights and erosion control around the fuel pump station. There is a need for the hose reels to be replaced and sprinkling system installed in the grass area around the terminal.

In regards to Planning and Zoning Mr. Hosler introduced Kathy Hurst as the new planning and zoning committee chairperson. He continued to tell Council that he will be gathering information about residents who live outside City limits. It has been several years since this was done, at which time numbers just outside city limits were 825 residents. In a City, economic development is driven by the community and the city's role is to facilitate the growth that is driven by private businesses.

***E. Resolution 2-10-2015-1 – Encouraging Comprehensive Transportation Funding – Kelly Laws***

Mr. Redd told Council that Councilmember Laws was unable to attend the meeting and had asked that he introduce the resolution for discussion. Mr. Redd explained that the resolution is needed to encourage the State of Utah to address comprehensive transportation funding. Mayor Balch stated that the transportation issue is not about just roads, but expands to a number of other areas including walking trails, four-wheeler trails, hiking trails etc. Councilmember Ogle expressed his opposition to the resolution because of the potential increase in taxes. He will not support it. Mayor Balch commented that the League is leaning towards the ¼ cent tax option. Councilmember Johnson asked if there were other options available. Mr. Redd responded that there are three or four options, but this was the one receiving the most support. This particular option is popular because it gives a local option tax which would not have to be implemented if the City chose not to. He stated that currently the funding coming in from the gas tax is not enough to repair City streets, and certainly doesn't begin to fund any additional growth in the community. Councilmember Lyman expressed his concern over the expansion to other areas other than roads. He is also unsure about the idea of a new tax, but stated if there has to be one, it would be nice to have local control over it.

After further discussion the resolution was tabled to allow for further discussion.

***F. Street Lighting Overview – Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd shared that Blanding currently has 250 street lights. Most have 100 watt bulbs. The cost to provide street lighting is estimated to be more than \$10,000 per year and is covered by the Electric Company. City crews are currently replacing existing lights with LED fixtures as replacements are needed. The LED lights add a significant amount of light for the same cost per fixture. He continued to tell Council that there is currently no rule or guidelines in place for setting street lights. Most that are installed are done on an as needed basis and the location is selected based on where the next light and where power for the light is located.

Mayor Balch stated a policy of guidelines for installing street lights would be good to have. Mr. Redd stated the policy would be included in the electrical policy.

***G. July 4<sup>th</sup> Sponsoring Discussion – Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd reported that he had spoken with the individual offering to sponsor a portion if the fireworks on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. The sponsor would make up the difference between what the City has budgeted for fireworks and \$25,000. In return for this sponsorship, the City would acknowledge through a banner and with advertising of his sponsorship. Using sponsors for activities and events would allow the City to spread their funds further. However, the sponsorship may create an expectation that the City could not meet without the sponsorship. Councilmember Johnson stated that the sponsorship is actually an investment in the community. It is coming from someone who wants to give back to the community he grew up in, and we should not stop someone from doing that. Councilmember Lyman commented that other events during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July are sponsored, why we would not allow this to happen. It would have to be very clear that the sponsor made the fireworks what they were this year. When and if the sponsorship goes away the show will return to what the City can afford to provide. Councilmember Ogle stated he is in full support of the sponsorship. Council agreed to allow the sponsorship of the fireworks.

***H. UAMPS Electric Purchase Agreement – Jeremy Redd***

Mr. Redd told Council that the cost of electricity has dropped along with other fuel sources. Blanding City is locking in the price of a single resource for April 2015 - March 2017. The price is for 1 MW HLM at \$37.90. Councilmember Johnson stated that if the rates stay low enough we could reduce the rate to citizens. Mr. Redd then stated that this is just one resource that the City owns, and the coal plants are increasing in costs due to the regulations and requirements by the Obama administration. Overall things look good, but because of the City ownership in coal plants it may not be feasible to lower any rates at this time. He will continue to monitor the average cost of power and make a recommendation with the budget.

**6. INFORMATION**

None

**7. OPEN FORUM**

Trent Herring spoke in support of the fireworks sponsorship. He then expressed his frustration with college students at the Recreation Center. He stated that because they don't pay for their memberships they have no respect for the equipment, facility or those that are paying members. Many

paying residents are leaving the facility because they cannot access the equipment because of the students. Councilmember Lyman encouraged Mr. Herring to work with the David Palmer to brainstorm ideas to reduce the problem. Mr. Herring also expressed his concern that a donated item had not been hung. The item was picked up at the first of January. Mr. Redd responded that he would look into that matter.

Mr. Ekker reminded everyone about the UPA meetings next Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm.

8. **Councilmember Lyman moved to adjourn. Councilmember Harrison seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson  
Councilmember Harrison  
Councilmember Lyman  
Councilmember Ogle**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BLANDING CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
JANUARY 27, 2015  
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Mayor:	Calvin Balch
City Councilmembers:	Kelly Laws
	Robert Ogle
	Taylor Harrison
Finance Director:	Kim Palmer
City Engineer:	Terry Ekker
General Services Manager:	Jeff Black
Community Development Director:	Bret Hosler
Police Chief:	Lloyd Watkins

Absent: David Johnson, Joe Lyman and Jeremy Redd

Community Members: Kendall Laws, Rodney Workman, Roma Young, Kathy Hurst.

Prayer/Thought - The prayer/thought was offered by Robert Ogle.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Councilmember Harrison moved to approve the minutes and financial disbursements of the January 13, 2015 meeting with changes to page 6, Information item A to include, "Others that will be attending include Councilmembers Harrison, Ogle and Lyman." And on page 6, Open Forum a change to the sentence that currently reads, "Councilmember Lyman asked if the school district had been approached." To now read, "...if the school district had been approached because their focus would be on education." Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Ogle  
Councilmember Laws  
Councilmember Harrison**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

3. **OPEN FORUM**

A. None

4. **REPORTS/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***A. Mr. Ekker presented the Project Status Report***

**12" Mountain Line Replacement Project**

Mr. Ekker reported the project is finished. SCADA integration is currently being worked on for a couple of meter stations associated with the project. Mayor Balch asked if the Dry Wash project is on hold until the area dries out. Mr. Ekker replied, yes.

**Blanding Power Distribution Project**

Mr. Ekker reported that the project has been postponed. Options are currently being considered for re-bidding the project.

**East Side Trunk Line Project**

Mr. Ekker reported that the land/right of way acquisition phase of the project is currently taking place. The funding for the project is currently being secured, and could be funded in late summer or early fall.

**2015 Streets Project**

Mr. Ekker told Council that funding was approved in December for the project. Councilmember Laws and Paul Sondregger represented the transportation district. The design for the project is currently taking place with Jones & Demille Engineering. This project is taking precedent over other City projects because it is believed that substantial savings could be available due to the decline in fuel costs. The project is scheduled for bid in May 2015.

**B. Financial Report – Kim Palmer**

Ms. Palmer presented the financial status report.

**C. July 4<sup>th</sup> Sponsorship Discussion – Kim Palmer**

Ms. Palmer told Council that that City had been approached by a former Blanding resident who is interested in sponsoring the fireworks during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. Councilmember Ogle stated that the individual is looking for a “plug” for his business by sponsoring the activity. Councilmember Laws asked if the City would be advertising for the business. He is concerned that sponsorship is a

way to turn government into an advertising avenue. Mayor commented that he sees sponsorship as a way to save the residents money. Councilmember Laws then commented that there is always a chance that government will be advertising for one business and not another because of the ability of a business to pay for sponsorship. Councilmember Harrison stated that no decision can be made or further discussion held until more details are available. Councilmembers agreed that more information was needed before a final decision could be made.

5. **AGENDA ITEMS**

***A. Budget Schedule – Review Memo – Kim Palmer***

Ms. Palmer told Council that included in the packet was the Proposed Budget FY 2016 Schedule. With the exception of the May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting all other budget discussions will take place at scheduled council meetings. The May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting is a scheduled Work Session.

6. **INFORMATION**

Ms. Palmer mentioned that each Councilmember should have received a copy of the election notice, which announces the upcoming fall election. The posted notice announces three City council seats up for election.

7. **OPEN FORUM**  
NONE

8. **Councilmember Harrison moved to adjourn. Councilmember Ogle seconded the motion. Mayor Balch repeated the motion and asked for discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. Voting was as follows:**

**Those voting AYE**

**Councilmember Johnson**

**Councilmember Ogle**

**Councilmember Laws**

**Councilmember Harrison**

**Councilmember Lyman**

**Those voting NAY**

**NONE**

**Constituting all members thereof, Mayor Balch declared the motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Palmer, Deputy Recorder